

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, June 20, 2013

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Ride to remember

Sports fan Andy cycles for charity in honour of his father

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Memory Lane

Intrepid team behind a land speed record bid

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Craig is staying

Defender Dawson isn't for sale insists Albion boss

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Man, 41, dies in holiday tragedy



Tragic – David Cook

HALESOWEN-BORN David Cook, a 41-year-old father-of-two, was killed when his motorbike crashed with a car in France.

The tragedy happened two days before he was due to return home to his wife, Joy, and children, Adam, aged 22, and Chloe, 19.

His family described him as a 'wonderful husband, father and son'.

Mr Cook rode his bike to work most days at Evans and White Ltd, Dawley Brook Road, Kingswinford, and had gone on holiday with a friend, Bernie Brinkmann, of Stourbridge.

Joy Cook, aged 44, said: "We had been together more than 23 years and he lived for his family."

His father John, of Stourbridge, said: "We have lost a wonderful husband, father and son. He was marvellous and meant the world to us all."

Mr Cook played for the veterans' team of Old Halesonians Rugby Club in Halesowen, where he had played since his teenage years.

The family is making arrangements for his body to be flown home. No date has yet been set for the funeral.

Crash closes part of M5

A SECTION of the M5 had to be closed between Oldbury and Halesowen yesterday (Wednesday) following a two-car crash.

Queues built up between junctions two and three after the smash at 11.30am. One lane was shut and traffic was diverted around the accident scene.

THOUSANDS TO GET NEW WHEELIE BINS

by Heather Large

HOMES in Halesowen will be among the first to get new wheelie bins as part of a £2.5m council scheme.

About 40,000 homes in Dudley borough will start getting the bins from July 1.

And people in Halesowen, Coseley, Stourbridge, Quarry Bank, Netherton, and Kingswinford will be among the first.

Households will also get two bags for paper, card, plastic bottles and cans as part of an expansion of the recycling service.

A second phase of deliveries will take place later this year, and the final phase will be carried out by spring 2014.

Once all of the phases have been completed residents will only have one collection day for both recycling and household waste. Some residents now have up to three.

And specialist computer software has been used to work out the most efficient bin collection routes.

Households will use their blue bag for paper and card, green bag for plastic bottles and cans and the existing black box for glass bottles and jars.

Important

Councillor Tracy Wood, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: "We want to do everything we can to help our residents to recycle more."

"We pride ourselves on offering a quality service to our residents and I would like to thank residents for their patience while we make these important changes."

The change comes after Dudley Council received a government grant of £1.8m to extend the borough's recycling schemes.

The cash will also be used to enable the council to continue emptying bins every week.

The council was one of 85 authorities which have had their application for the cash approved by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

At present, households are given bin liners for household waste and a box for recycling paper, glass and tins.

It is hoped the plan to introduce wheelie bins will save the council £250,000 a year now spent on black bin bags.

Town's Victorian day pulls in the crowds



Carol Taylor with Ruby and Lara Fisher working on the Lopal House stall at the Victorian Street Fayre in Halesowen town centre



Stiltwalkers Helena Parsons, left, and Tor Callis with unicyclist Paul Morris have fun in Halesowen

HALESOWEN stepped back more than 100 years at the weekend when a special Victorian fair was held in the town centre.

From a young chimney sweep to the bicycled policeman, costumed characters played their part to make the Rotary Club event a hit.

Birmingham-based girl duo X Marks the Girl and Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin tribute singers provided entertainment, and there were 34 stalls along High Street and Hagley Street. A Victorian carousel was brought down from Manchester to take pride of place at the fair alongside historic rides.

Fantastic

More than 5,000 people visited the event, which went on for most of the day, and it is thought to have raised £10,000 for charity.

Halesowen councillor Ken Turner, president of the Halesowen and Rowley Regis Rotary Club, said: "It was fantastic. The moment it paid off for me was when I was at St Margaret's Church in Aspley the next day and a choir boy got up and said how much he enjoyed the event."

He added: "It's the biggest event we have had so far, which is great for the charities which will benefit. The visitors were engrossed by the entertainers, who were brilliant throughout."

Move to cut speed limit near schools

A PLAN to introduce 20mph speed limits or other safety measures on roads outside 11 schools in Dudley borough, including one in Halesowen, have been drawn up.

Teachers, parents and community leaders have called for speed limits to be slashed outside the schools which are on busy roads.

The Halesowen school is St Kenelm RC Primary, in Richmond Street.

The plan follows a review of school sites across the borough to look at where lower speed limits were necessary. Councillors agreed to look at the issue in October 2011 to improve safety near the busiest schools.

Schools could request to have the limits reduced outside their premises, with council officials tasked to investigate further.

But road layouts and traffic flows have proved stumbling blocks for plans to introduce the measure on some main roads.

The issue was coming up for discussion at Dudley Council's cabinet today (Thursday).

In total 13 road sites have been identified as priorities following consultation with schools and ward councillors last year, and the Halesowen school is considered one of the more urgent.

A more detailed technical evaluation of the sites will now take place by council officers.

Escape plan was rubbish

THREE suspected burglars jumped into bins to try to hide from police. Officers were called after a resident heard noise at his home in Smith Street, Dixons Green, Dudley, at 4.40am on Monday.

After a chase, one man was arrested from a bin nearby, and the two suspected accomplices were found at the bottom of a rubbish chute at a block of flats.

No-one was hurt.

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CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and the Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Halesowen who can help:

Tom Mason: 01902 319466
tom.mason@expressandstar.co.uk
Charlotte Lilley: 01902 319490
charlotte.lilley@expressandstar.co.uk
Will Ackermann: 01384 353213
will.ackermann@expressandstar.co.uk
Heather Large: 01384 353203
heather.large@expressandstar.co.uk
Sharon Marris: 01384 353209
sharon.marris@expressandstar.co.uk
Louise Jew: 01384 353201
louise.jew@expressandstar.co.uk
Alex Ross: 01384 353207
alex.ross@expressandstar.co.uk
Andrew Turton: 01384 353202
andrew.turton@expressandstar.co.uk
Lee Watton: 01384 353230
lee.watton@expressandstar.co.uk

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Sports: E-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk
Photographic John Sambrooks
Tel: 01902 319431

Advertising:

Nikki Cope
Tel: 01902 319573 E-mail: n.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

Emma Parkes
Tel: 01384 353234 E-mail: e.parkes@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990 E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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Shock as metal thieves steal gas pipes

THE 'incredibly dangerous' actions of metal thieves who stripped gas piping from homes 'beggars belief', it has been claimed.

It came as residents told of their shock after the raids caused a gas leak.

Glenis Pearce's home in Coseley was one of more than half a dozen targeted by thieves.

The 66-year-old was woken by a

loud noise last week and smelled gas. She noticed the pipes on the side of the semi-detached house in Robert Wynd were missing.

National Grid spokeswoman Jane Taylor said: "We were called out to houses in Coseley where pipework was stolen and we made the situation safe. It beggars belief that people would do this as it is incredibly dangerous."

Mrs Pearce, who looks after her disabled husband John, 70, said: "I looked outside and the pipes had gone - I couldn't believe it. It was very worrying."

"It left us without gas for two days while we waited for it to be fixed."

"When my new boiler was fitted in 2010, I said at the time I wasn't happy with the pipes being outside where they could be seen."

Homes in nearby Clifton Street were also hit. Fire crews from Dudley and Bilston were called to Clifton Street after residents reported a strong smell of gas. They found copper gas piping cut off on one end of the row of properties.

Firefighter Andy Rainey said: "These people have put their lives and the lives of others at risk by stealing this metal."

Go-ahead for homes on site of former club

THE site of a demolished club in Stourbridge is making way for new homes after the scheme was given the go-ahead by council chiefs.

Dudley Council planning officers have approved Smethwick-based Bains Builders' planning application for the housing development on the former Stourbridge War Memorial Club.

The old club, in Amblecote High Street, was knocked down last month. It had become a magnet for vandalism and anti-social behaviour since it closed in 2002.

Earlier plans to turn the site into a restaurant and cabaret bar in 2010 fell through after residents raised concerns.

Concerns

Last August, the site was sold by estate agents Lee Shaw Partnership and a proposal was put forward in January to build four detached care homes for young adults on the site.

But that planning application was later withdrawn because of concerns over the amount of traffic that would be going in and out of site.

The latest plan by Bains Builders is for four houses.

Under the new scheme, each of the four houses will have four en-suite bedrooms.

The homes will be brick-built with the style designed to be in keeping with existing properties in the area.

Margaret Scott, chairman of the Stourbridge Town Partnership, welcomed the approval for the new plans.

She said: "The building was an absolute eyesore before."

Fans snap up Weller gig tickets in minutes

TICKETS for Paul Weller's gig in Wolverhampton sold out within 30 minutes of going on sale last week.

Dozens of fans queued at the Midland Box Office in the city centre from the early hours to get their hands on tickets for the October 16 show at the Civic Hall.

The Modfather is returning to the venue as part of a 10-concert tour.

Diamond couple celebrate with family



Ron and Patricia Evans, celebrating their anniversary

A PAIR of teenage sweethearts have celebrated 60 years of married bliss.

Their eyes first met when they were pupils at Park School in Grange Road, Dudley.

And devoted couple Ron and Patricia Evans have been by each other's side ever since.

They got married on May 30 1953 after Mr Evans, now 82, had completed two year's national service which he served in Egypt.

"We were 15 and 13 when we first met. I wanted to get married at 18 but my father told me I should wait until after I had done my national service. We didn't see

each other for two years while I was in Egypt," said Mr Evans.

The wedding ceremony took place at St James Church in Eve Hill, Dudley and Mr Evans, who worked as a milkman for Midland Counties Dairy for 10 years, said it had been worth the wait.

Delighted

Mr Evans also worked for Geoff Hickinbottom's bakery in Wednesbury while Mrs Evans, now aged 80, was a seamstress.

The couple, of Brierley Hill, have two children, Michael and Sharon, as well as eight grandchild-



The couple on their big day

dren and four great-grandchildren.

Mr Evans, who said he enjoyed improving their home including decorating, said they were delighted to celebrate their diamond wedding.

To mark the important milestone their family organised a special dinner party.

The couple will also be going on holiday to Jersey later in the year.

"Our secret to a happy marriage is give and take. We enjoy each other's company and I've never been out the house without her," said Mr Evans.

Army in drive to find new recruits

ARMY boots are hitting the ground in Dudley as part of a nationwide recruitment campaign aimed at bringing 10,000 soldiers into the Army over the coming year.

As part of the campaign, people are being invited to attend one of a number of recruitment events in the Black Country over the next month.

There will be a special Jobcentre Plus clinic in Dudley on June 26, from 1pm to 3pm.

The clinic will provide potential recruits with more information about the range of jobs available in the Army and a unique opportunity to meet and talk to young serving soldiers about what the Army can offer.

The Dudley event is part of a nationwide campaign to dispel the misconception that the Army is not hiring.

Brigadier Andrew Jackson, the Director of Recruiting and Training for the Army, said: "We are always looking for talented, young people to take up the challenge of a career in the Army."

"No matter what your skills or background, the Army has something to offer you and an Army job provides opportunities to learn much more beyond military skills. It will develop you and show you the strengths you didn't know you had."

Mayor gets help with campaign

BRUNO the dog has helped the Mayor of Dudley with his campaign to raise money for charity.

Councillor Alan Finch invited representatives from his chosen charities, including the eight and a half year old dog from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

Representatives from Cancer Support, The White House, Dudley, also joined the Mayor for afternoon tea at the Council House in Dudley.

Councillor Finch said: "It was great to meet the representatives."

They make such a big difference to the people who rely on their support, from people with cancer and their families to the people who need a dog to get out."

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Man, 25, sent to jail after car crash

A DRIVER who took his girlfriend's car and smashed into another vehicle after ignoring a red light, has been jailed for 12 months.

Daniel Biles, of Lodge Crescent, Netherton, took the car without permission and hit a Land Rover Discovery in Marriott Road, Brierley Hill.

The other driver had gone through a green light and had even slowed down. About £500 damage was caused to the Land Rover, Howard Searle, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court.

The driver found the car Biles was driving abandoned along the road.

Biles, aged 25, was found guilty of dangerous driving, driving with no insurance, failing to stop at the scene of an accident and aggravated vehicle taking, after a trial at Dudley Magistrates Court.

He was jailed for 12 months for dangerous driving and was given a three-month sentence for aggravated vehicle taking, to run concurrently. He was also banned from driving for two years.

Stephen Hamblett, defending, said Biles's partner had forgiven him and they were still together. He added: "She has lost out as the insurance company is not paying out."

Councils warned on filming

COUNCILS have been warned by Eric Pickles to stop using false legal objections to prevent the public filming meetings.

The Communities Secretary said he wanted to stand up for public scrutiny as he published a guide to people's rights to report proceedings and obtain official documents.

The Department for Communities and Local Government said councils continued to refuse to allow councillors and officers to be filmed, but it was a misconception that it was prohibited. Mr Pickles said: "I want to stand up for the rights of journalists and taxpayers to scrutinise decisions of the state. Data protection should not be used to suppress reporting."

Rowena's £10k target in memory of tragic son

HEARTBROKEN mother Rowena Jeremy is channelling grief into action.

She has raised nearly £5,000 by running in memory of her son, who died aged eight, from an asthma attack.

Despite being asthmatic herself, Mrs Jeremy, aged 38, of Wordsley, has been inspired by her son Owen's love of sport. And with friends, she has started taking part in races.

She competed in a Manchester 10,000 kilometre event recently - and plans to

carry on to raise £10,000 for Asthma UK by the end of the year.

"I know it's something Owen would never have believed his mummy could do," said Mrs Jeremy. "I have really enjoyed it and I will be carrying on."

Owen, who loved football and swimming, died last May when he went into cardiac arrest in Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital after suffering an asthma attack at his school, Fairhaven Primary.

Friends of Owen, his mother and

father, David, have also been running to raise cash in his memory. They include David Rowe, headteacher of Fairhaven Primary, other staff at the school and mothers of some of the youngster's pals.

School friends have also raised £13,000 for an adventure playground at the school in memory of Owen, who lived with his parents in Primrose Hill.

To help Mrs Jeremy's appeal see www.justgiving.com/rowena-jeremy



Nicola Chowings-Thomas, Stephanie Mackenzie, Rowena Jeremy, Jo Lancaster and Tamsyn Eida

Devoted elderly couple die in horrific car crash

Sports fan Andy rides for his father



Andy Luckett who is taking part in the Football League Challenge charity bike ride in memory of his father

A SPORTS fan is joining up with one of his football heroes for a mammoth cycle ride from London to Amsterdam to raise cash for charity.

Andy Luckett, aged 48, teamed up last week with former England striker Luther Blissett and 50 other cyclists on the 155-mile route from Wembley.

Mr Luckett, of Dibdale Road, Dudley, took on the challenge to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK.

His father John Luckett, who lived in West Heath in Birmingham, died from the cancer aged 80, in 2000.

So far, the Department of Work and Pensions civil servant has raised more than £1,000 in sponsorship for the ride.

He said: "I saw the ride advertised and it was perfect for me. I love football and Luther Blissett, enjoying cycling, and want to raise money for fighting prostate cancer."

Mr Luckett trained hard for the event and lost more than a stone in weight in the process.

He said: "I used to often cycle to work in Birmingham, but I did some big rides in preparation, cycling up to 70 miles a day."

"The ride is tough, but going along with so many other cyclists and Luther will give me a lift."

People can help Andy Luckett to reach his fundraising target by logging on to website uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AndrewLuckett1



Andy's father John Luckett

A DEVOTED elderly couple were found holding hands in the wreckage of a car crash which claimed their lives.

John and Betty Hodgkiss died in the smash and were found with their hands clasped together inside their badly damaged car moments after the tragedy.

Mr Hodgkiss, an 82-year-old retired bus driver and former army corporal, died at the scene of the accident last Friday at Wootton, Six Ashes, on the A458 Bridgnorth to Stourbridge road.

His 79-year-old wife was airlifted to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital where she died the following evening.

The couple, who had been married for 52 years, were travelling from their home in Bilston Road, Tipton, to their favourite pub near Bridgnorth for a meal when their car, a Ford Mondeo, was in collision with a grey Audi A4 TDI estate.

Their son David, 47, of the Woodside estate, Dudley, said: "The most comforting thing for me is that they have gone together."

"We were told that they were found holding hands in the car so they must have had time to say goodbye to each other."

Married

The couple also leave daughter-in-law Jackie and grandchildren, Katie, 26, Rebecca, 18, Jessica, 16, and Samantha, 15.

Mr Hodgkiss had served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, after which he worked as a coach driver, which led to a chance meeting with Betty.

They were together for 10 months before they married at Hill Top Methodist Church, West Bromwich, in 1961.

Mr Hodgkiss had some mobility problems in recent years and had a hip operation last October. He bought



Betty and John Hodgkiss

the automatic Mondeo Zetec about six weeks ago.

The couple would often visit The River and Rail Country Inn, in Hampton Loade, near Bridgnorth.

Police said they were travelling from the Stourbridge direction towards Bridgnorth when the accident happened.

The woman driving the Audi suffered minor injuries.

"We want to thank all their friends and neighbours and our family for being so supportive and also the emergency services for what they did, and the family police liaison officer," added David.

"I'm still devastated - I can't believe they are gone. They were such a brilliant couple."

Next-door neighbour Philip Barklam, 54, said: "They were a lovely couple."

NEWS in brief

Festival to raise cash for church

AN appeal is being made for help to help pay for essential maintenance to the only Grade 1 listed building in Stourbridge - St Thomas' church in Market Street.

The lighting system needs replacing, the interior needs redecorating, and the church hall needs to be revamped.

The main fundraising activity will be a three-day flower festival from June 28 which will be opened by MP Margot James. It will include a performance by the Stourbridge Operatic Society on the Sunday.

Development is one of the best

A multi-million pound housing development was in Walsall town centre has been named as one of the top 50 in the UK.

The £55m Walsall Waterfront was one of just three housing developments in the West Midlands to be selected.

Judge and Chartered Institute of Housing Board member Elaine Elkington praised the 322 home site, which saw the redevelopment of 5.5 acres of derelict brown-field land.

Delays warning on stretch of M5

A STRETCH of the M5 in the West Midlands will be closed overnight for a week for resurfacing work.

The Highways Agency is warning of disruption on the southbound stretch between junctions three near Halesowen and four near Lydiate Ash. The work started on Monday and the motorway was being closed from 9.30pm to 5.30am.

Pub of the year gets its award

THE Stourbridge and Halesowen branch of the Campaign for Real Ale has chosen the winner of its pub of the year award.

Members were visiting the winning pub, The Starving Rascal, in Bretell Lane, Amblecote, today (Thursday) at 8pm to make the presentation of the award.

Opera parts offer

AN operatic group in Cradley Heath is launching open auditions for its latest show, Copacabana.

TAB Operatic Society is staging the auditions at Dudley Wood Methodist Church Hall on July 2. Call 0121 550 7254 for details.

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NEWS

THE BEST
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RHODES

GREAT understatement of our time: "Those silly things." Term used by former Netherlands prime minister Ruud Lubbers to describe 22 American nuclear bombs still in bunkers on Dutch soil.

□□□□□□□□

WITH a hint of disgust, Jenni Murray complains that young women who succeed in classical music are "the ones who are prepared to go along with the idea that sex sells." Why single out classical music? One of the mysteries of our age, after 40 years of strident feminism, is that men can become rock, pop or classical stars wearing normal clothes but women have to do it in their underwear.

□□□□□□□□

POLISH doctors have set up a practice in London, offering 30-minute appointments seven days a week, until 11pm. The surgery boasts spotless premises, friendly receptionists and has almost 6,000 Brits on its books, even though appointments cost £70 a time. How can such a clinic possibly flourish when our beloved NHS is free? Simple. I have a friend who wanted a short appointment with her doctor at her local GP surgery which is, of course, closed at nights and weekends. She will have to wait 11 days. She is actually relieved because in the past she has had to wait over three weeks for an appointment. What's the point in having a free service if it is so useless? So here's the key question. If a doctor could see you today or tomorrow, at a time to suit you, for a full 30 minutes with the chance of a speedy referral to a specialist, how much would you be prepared to pay? In affluent London, the rate appears to be £70. How long, faced with the dismal service offered by some NHS surgeries, before paid-for surgeries on the Polish pattern spring up across the rest of Britain?

□□□□□□□□

THERE'S an interesting little spat about Ramshaw on the right-on Independent website which will not allow contributors to use the word w**** in full. One suggests: "Use banker. It's just as insulting."

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

GP surgery closes as part of merger plan

A DOCTOR'S surgery has been closed as part of a merger plan, ahead of the opening of a multi-million pound health centre in Stourbridge.

Work is under way to convert the derelict former Foster, Rastrick and Company plant into an £8.5 million health centre.

by Andrew Turton

The development, which will serve 26,000 patients, is being created by Worcester Street Medical Practice in partnership with Primary Health Properties Plc.

The practice operates three surgeries which will close in phases before the main facility opens in 2014. The first branch surgery to shut will be the one in Meriden Avenue, Wollaston, on June 29.

Difficulties

Some patients have raised concerns about the move because of the extra distances to travel, especially for elderly people or those with mobility problems.

Ward councillor Ian Marrey said: "I can understand some people will be disappointed that they face difficulties and it could be hard for them to get to the other surgeries."

There is another surgery in Wollaston, however.

Practice manager Cathryn Bateman said they would listen to patients' concerns but the move out of the

outdated facilities was necessary.

"We are sorry that some of our patients feel that the closure of Meriden Avenue will adversely affect them."

"We can reassure them that we remain committed to providing first-class health care during the transition and beyond," she said.

"We are very happy to discuss the issue with patients that feel directly affected. We have developed new premises with our patients in mind. We are aware that we have outgrown our current premises and that they are no longer suitable."

Approval for plans was given around three years ago but the scheme was not finalised until a contract was agreed between Worcester Street Medical Practice and Primary Health Properties last October.

Primary Health Properties will lease the centre on a 25-year contract to the GP practice when building is complete.

Youngsters toddle for charity



From left, twins Christopher and Amelia Bowen, Holly Hanson, two, with Dudley College childcare student Lauren Guy and zoo mascot Jambi Tiger

HUNDREDS of youngsters joined the annual Barnardo's Big Toddle at Dudley Zoo.

Under-fives, dressed as characters from their favourite books, took over Dudley Castle courtyard, at the heart of the zoo, to help raise funds for disadvantaged children, and they took part in a short sponsored walk at the site.

Zoo spokeswoman Jill Hitchman said: "We are delighted to welcome back Barnardo's Big Toddle."

Fantastic

"It was fantastic to see so many nurseries, childminders, playgroups and families joining us to raise funds for a very worthy cause, and everyone had a fantastic time."

The event has been held at the zoo for 14 years.

Peters Hill Primary School nursery keyworker Christine Southall said: "We enjoy fundraising for Barnardo's and have taken part in the Toddle for more than 10 years."

Wildlife protected as homes are built

WORK on a housing development in the grounds of an 18th century manor house near Stourbridge is under way.

Ecologists have been on site at Wordsley Manor installing features to protect wildlife on the site, off Meadowfields Close, before construction starts on 14 homes.

A survey found three species of bat and three types of slow worms there.

The measures to protect them include saving foraging areas and creating a lighting scheme that would not scare bats away. Bat boxes will be put up, reptiles will be moved and a 'sunken reptile movement' corridor will allow the slow worms to move from the brook to the canal.

Gavin Warr, managing director of developer Selbourne Homes, said: "We've got about a month or so before we start building."

More than 100 people objected to the scheme when it went before Dudley Council planners in 2011.

They were worried about its impact on traffic and car parking, and conservation group Natural England had concerns over wildlife.

The council gave approval after the Hagley-based developers promised to protect the bats and slow worms.

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Festival of music planned for park

LOUD music and guitars are once again taking over Haden Hill House and park in Cradley Heath this summer for a one-day music festival.

The Opportunity Rocks festival is on Sunday July 7, between 11am and 6pm. This is the fourth year that the event in the park has been held.

It gives young indie, rock and pop musicians and singers a chance to perform live in front of an audience.

Cabinet member for highways and environment Councillor Maria Crompton said: "In previous years we have had some amazing young talent on stage."

"The event is a great opportunity for young bands to get up and perform."

The hunt is now on for performers for the show.

As well as the live music there will also be temporary body art, an inflatable assault course, and a burger van, and a local guitar shop will be demonstrating and showcasing their wares.

And there will be a DJ between bands.

The event is free for participants and for the audience. Councillor Crompton added: "We really want to create a festival atmosphere in the park, but hopefully without the festival mud."

Anyone wanting more information should ring 01384 569444.

Free car parking spaces on cards for town centre

Thousands flock to village event



The parade draws spectators at Kinver Country Fayre

VINTAGE cars, traditional post boxes, locally-brewed real ale, morris dancing – the best of British was celebrated by thousands of people at the annual Kinver Country Fayre.

Colour and noise filled the village's High Street on Sunday morning as a parade of motors, bikes, people and even pets trailed down the road to start the event.

The march was led by firefighters from Kinver fire station and featured a large tractor-pulled float filled with members of Potters Cross Pre-School. Also in the parade were scouting groups, cadet and army organisations, Irish dancing schools and football clubs.

The parade snaked down the High Street, which was lined with stalls from charities and local traders, before turning into Stag Meadow field where events including a dog show, falconry and medieval battles were held.

Organiser Charles Sadler said: "We've overwhelmed by the support. I think we got well in excess of 10,000 people." Money raised is shared between local charities.



Running a stall Jane Windge, Sharon Johnson, Kay Davies and Sophie Currier

EXTRA free parking spaces could be created in Stourbridge town centre after concerns were raised about cars clogging up the streets.

Council bosses are carrying out a review to see where additional on-street bays can be provided to boost the town's High Street.

Report by Alex Ross

The move comes after Margaret Scott, chairman of Stourbridge Township Council, called for charges to be dropped at two car parks in Birmingham Street in a bid to attract visitors.

She said cars lined streets within walking distance of the town centre.

"I live in Parkfield Road and I've seen people leave their cars here and walk into the town centre and then come back with bags from Co-op and Iceland," she said.

"All the streets within walking distance from the town centre are the same. People are trying to avoid paying to park."

Pressure

She has suggested that the council make the car parks in Birmingham Street, which she says are seldom used, free of charge.

"They are not used at the moment but they would be just as close to the town centre as the streets where people are parking now."

But Councillor Judy Foster, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "While there are no plans to remove charges at Birmingham Street car parks,

we are reviewing parking in the town centre with a view to improving, where possible, the availability of free on-street parking."

Meanwhile Councillor Ian Marrey has spoken out about a shortage of parking in Wollaston.

He said there had been a growing shortage of spaces following the demolition of the old Bell Street multi-storey car park in April.

"This has increased the pressure on the limited off-street car parking," he added.

Councillor Marrey had objected to plans to convert a former butcher's shop in Worcester Street into four flats, saying it would increase pressure on parking.

The plans were approved by the council's planning committee, after officers said there would be potentially be more traffic if the site was used as a shop.

The old multi-storey car park in Bell Street was demolished last year for the Tesco development. There will be 500 spaces available when the store opens later this year.

NEWS in brief

Trust invitation to young people

YOUNG people in Dudley are being offered the chance to join a programme run by The Prince's Trust.

It will combine working for qualifications, a week of outdoor pursuits and volunteering in the community.

It is being run by City of Wolverhampton College and West Midlands Police and is open to people aged between 16 and 25.

It starts on July 15. For more information, call 07768 766349.

Online route to find information

DUDLEY people can now find their local council and other services at the click of a button.

The town council has set up an online service to help residents find information about their area. The Find My Local web page can be found from www.dudley.gov.uk

People simply input their postcode and gain access to a range of information including details on amenities such as recycling facilities, community centres and local schools.

Free live music

FREE live music events, including one in Sedgley's Baggeridge Country Park, will be staged in July in celebration of the legacy of the Olympics, it has been announced.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

A THREE-minute film, funded by the Government, has been made for prospective Polish immigrants warning them that the streets of Britain are not paved with gold.

This charming little movie, entitled *Before You Go*, tells the cautionary tale of a homeless Polish immigrant who is robbed of his money and identification papers.

Then, if that is not enough, the unfortunate Pole is then set alight by a bloke who looks like Pavarotti in a hoodie. Come on, it's happened to us all at some time or other, hasn't it?

The Foreign Office has so far yet to reveal how many Polish immigrants have been set ablaze by operatic doppel-gangers, but I would venture to suggest it is fairly small.

Still, at least they didn't hire the Welsh bloke who pops up everywhere singing about car insurance. Now that would be unsubtle.

Perhaps it would be better used by the British Tourist Authority. You know, something along the lines of "Come to Britain, for a blazing time," or maybe "Where a warm welcome is guaranteed".

Or maybe it would be better to keep it simple: "The country where people will set you on fire."

It needs a bit of work, granted, but the potential is there.

AS the row rumbles on about whether a Hungarian act should really have won Britain's Got Talent, it seems that the bigger question about shadow dance act Attraction has been forgotten.

Are they really that good?

Yes, what they do is quite clever, and some of the messages they delivered fairly poignant. But is that really the finest emerging talent that this nation can muster?

Back in the 70s, as today, Britain's screens were packed with talent shows, *New Faces*, *Opportunity Knocks*, *Rising Stars*, these low-budget shows were a world away from the polished, multi-million pound productions such as *Britain's Got Talent*, *X Factor* and *The Voice*.

Yet these simple, ramshackle productions brought us the likes of Les Dawson, Frank Carson, Mary Hopkin, Lenny Henry, Joe Pasquale. Okay, maybe not Joe Pasquale, but you get the drift.

Can you really imagine people still raving over a group of Hungarian shadow dancers 30 or 40 years from now? Or Pudsey the Dancing Dog?

Or more to the point, the girl, whose name escapes me at the moment, who won *The Voice* last year?

Maybe what we need is a spot of rebranding, you know a new name. Something like *Britain Used To Have Talent*. That should do the trick.



Sue Higgs discusses training with Rupy Pandaal, service user and carer strategy co-ordinator



Clare Corness-Parr, left, head of adult nursing, and Ann Philp, head of recruitment retention and employability



Service user Hilary Jones receives training before joining the panel to interview potential nurses

How users help to select new nurses

Recruitment is changing.
MARISHA CYSEWSKI
reports on the University of
Wolverhampton's pioneers

WHEN Sue Higgs interviews potential nurses she looks for "kindness, a willingness to learn and above all compassion" and she should know the value of these qualities.

She is not a medical professional, but she is drawing on her first hand experience of the NHS to help select nursing students for the University of Wolverhampton, alongside tutors and nurses from clinical practice.

Mrs Higgs, of Penn, Wolverhampton, was a carer for her husband of 43 years, John, for six years after he suffered a brain haemorrhage which left him unable to look after himself.

He was a former teacher at Colton Hills Community School; he sadly died three and a half years ago.

Increase

She says: "Before John died we had some good and some not so good experiences with the NHS. I wanted to give something back for the positive experiences."

The university has 480 student nursing places, this year there has already been more than 3,700 applications.

The numbers applying to NHS-funded courses has increased considerably since the rise in tuition fees, so it is more competitive than ever to get a place.

Panel members will interview around 10 applicants a day, for courses starting in September and January.

Hilary Jones, aged 54, of Dudley, has suffered from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome for 15 years, an incurable illness which left her housebound. She is receiving training to become a panel member in the School of Health and Wellbeing.



Students nurses Emma Simpson, left, and Naomi Perry helped by interviews

She says: "It is uplifting to see the university's commitment to make the theory they teach a reality through involving us. Our opinions are respected and the university is dedicated to making the courses well rounded experiences."

"I think having service users involved in the course helps the students get a better understanding of what they are letting themselves in for."

The service users' judgements carry equal weighting to the views of the professionals and they are trained in areas such as equality and diversity to help their interview technique.

Head of Adult Nursing, Clare Corness-Parr, says: "The service users know what they want from nurses, they

is most beneficial for our development."

Rupy Pandaal is the service user and carer strategy co-ordinator and recruits the new panel members. He says: "The service users have a range of experiences, from life threatening illnesses to being carers."

"Some of them have had previous involvement with the university; others have heard through word of mouth and expressed their interest."

Around 50 service users are involved but there are plans to increase the number as the revised interview process is rolled out to more other fields of nurses including mental health, learning disability and children's nursing.

The Francis Report following the public inquiry into Mid Staffordshire has shaken the NHS's foundations as it described failings leading to appalling standards of care, since this service users are becoming more involved in health care education on a national level.

The university is one of the first educational establishments to involve service users in interviews, although this process began before the report was released.

Improve

The scheme was piloted last year when six service users took part in 18 interview dates, which showed they could make valuable recommendations.

The report aims to improve the standard of care for patients and has called for a selection of student nurses who have the right attitude and are able to put the welfare of others first.

The Francis Report made 290 recommendations to deliver better care, at the heart of this is the desire to put patients first and ensure that they are listened to.

Sue Higgs says: "Nursing my husband, John, was a hard time and big learning curve. I hope my experiences can help to benefit others."

"I do feel like my opinions are being listened to and valued on the panel and hope that the nurses we help to choose go on to make great carers and have successful careers."

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

HUNDREDS of children were sent home after a strike by cleaners and dinner ladies began to bite in Dudley schools. More than 800 staff hit the picket lines after rumours circulated that their jobs were about to be handed over to private firms.

THE death of a big-hearted Wednesfield ice cream man left government treasury officials with a headache after he left a £50,000 fortune in the bank. Giuseppe Gholoni died aged 77 without having made a will, leaving officials with the task of trying to locate his heirs.

A WORKING men's club which opened its doors in 1895 closed them for the last time after losing a battle against rising costs and falling membership. The Walsall Working Men's Club in Palfrey was known as the "mother club" because it spawned many others.

1993...

KITCHEN staff at a Bilston school served up a treat for tennis fans to mark the start of Wimbledon fortnight. Workers at Moseley Park School dressed up as tennis players and served up dishes such as tennis ball quiche and Centre Court pizza.

A COUNCIL worker from Cradley Heath celebrated winning more than £20,000 on the football pools after his new lucky numbers came up trumps. Dudley Council worker Dave Wesson scooped the prize just a week after changing his numbers.

A WEDNESFIELD couple cried tears of joy after an emotional reunion with their two Filipino sons. Keith and Angelina Mitchell flew back to England with their children having not seen them for two years due to a red tape wrangle.

2003...

A HARRY Potter price war broke out across the Black Country after one store owner pledged to sell the new book at half price. Discount book store Works offered Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix for £8.99 at its branches in Walsall, Wolverhampton and Stafford.

YOUNGSTERS in Dudley formed their own football team as part of a community scheme to tackle anti-social behaviour. About 16 youths from the Priory Estate took part in regular coaching sessions run by former Wolves player Dale Rudge.

RUBBISH collection crews in Wolverhampton were called in to work on a Saturday to clear a backlog of unemptied wheellie bins. Hundreds of bins were missed during the first week of the council's new collection system.

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LETTERS

Plea to keep inspiring Hippodrome

IT saddens me that members of Dudley Council think demolishing the Hippodrome is the right thing to do. I fully support The Friends of Dudley Hippodrome in their fight to restore this building and urge the council to at least let them try.

Their business plan costs the taxpayer and council nothing – despite inaccurate reports of a need for an annual subsidy.

Dudley is crying out for a proper theatre. I have recently been inside the Hippodrome and it is breathtaking –

huge and inspiring and in a very good state of repair. To tear down this place would be a sin. Never will Dudley ever own such a magnificent theatre.

I like our zoo, adore the castle and appreciate the Black Country Living Museum, but for the life of me I cannot understand why the council does not have the vision to see that a high-quality, night-time entertainment venue would pull in tourists to all our attractions. With a theatre people may even make a weekend of it in the Black Country.

The Friends want to make the Hippodrome a centre of excellence in education too – providing training in the arts for all ages.

What's not to like? What's not to support? It all fits in with the development of Castle Hill and provides a facility for locals – and some jobs too – not to mention the knock-on effect to local hotels and eateries.

Come on councillors! Give something back to us – 20,000 plus people signing the petition so far can't be wrong!

Joanna Roden, Dudley.

Growing number of police advisors

WITH police cutting back, and without the benefit of Superman, it now seems we have Wonder Bob, or as they say in Wales, Jones the Law.

After appointing a Deputy from his own Labour Party, he appointed a number of assistants. He now seeks to appoint not one Youth Commissioner but several since this hitherto unheard of position is too big for one person.

I wonder if Young Labour are about to have plucked from their midst, the next hangers-on. Maybe, Bob, you could have a few younger assistants. Kindergarten Cop springs to mind.

Before long we will have an unelected advisory committee to see if we have enough commissioners. This is getting ridiculous; we will soon have more would be commissioners than people.

Robert William White, Tompstone Road, Wigmore.

LETTERS

to the Editor

POST

Halesowen Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Degrading process of trying to find a job

HAVING been employed since 1969, I am now unemployed, and trying to find a job is like looking for a Mayan civilisation in Tipton.

The situation is much worse than the illuminati at Jobcentre Plus will admit to. There is a real paucity of jobs and castigating the JSA claimants on a total payment of £71 a week is unfair as the degrading process of signing on and seeking non-existent vacancies is soul destroying.

Advertised jobs are usually taken or receive a myriad of applications so emails, phone calls and letters are rarely replied to.

In six months I've had five replies from 115 applications and three interviews. Ageism is also prevalent although you cannot blame a prospective employer for considering it.

J K Glaze, Wordsley, Stourbridge.

Ofsted has failed to raise standards

OFSTED inspectors are not experts in education. They are purely and simply 'tickers of boxes', the boxes being provided by the relevant government department, currently led by that other non-education expert, Michael Gove.

To be an inspector you do not have to be a qualified and experienced teacher. Virtually anyone can take the short course needed. It can, however, turn out to be a nice little earner. The facility to operate a word/statement bank is very useful. This is the reason why all reports are churned out with similar jargon.

The goalposts set by the government are continually changing, so a school can go from outstanding to just satisfactory in subsequent inspections. From my experience these schools remain excellent despite Ofsted.

The system has not produced any improvements in standards in education whatsoever, in fact quite the contrary. Ofsted's main achievements have been to demoralise and humiliate an extremely hard working group of professionals.

Ian Marcus Dyer, supply teacher and author, The Broadway, Stourbridge.

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NEWS

Firm invests to keep its clients on the road

THE booming Halesowen-based commercial vehicle bodybuilder Bevan Group has made key changes to its management team and invested in a new, extended fleet of mobile workshops to serve its aftercare customers.

From a fleet of just six, the company will be operating 20 of the distinctive workshop vans by the end of this month, under the director of Bevan's aftercare manager Simon Dryburgh.

He has just been promoted to take over from Roy Shelton, who has become the company's first business development manager.

As well as Bevan's range of dry freight box, curtainside and platform bodies, Roy is focused on selling temperature-controlled bodywork for rigid trucks.

Winning

This followed the company's announcement in January that it had entered a strategic partnership with specialist manufacturer Schmitz Cargobull.

He is managing several key accounts but is also charged with winning business from operators that have not previously used Bevan's services.

Simon, meanwhile, has taken up his new position at Bevan's headquarters in Amber Way, having spent nearly 10 years working as general manager for one of its main competitors.

He began his career 25 years ago as a technical apprentice with Metro Cammell, working on trains, and his CV includes a 13-year stint with another well-known commercial



Bevan's expanded fleet of mobile workshops will provide cover nationwide

vehicle bodybuilder. Alongside its manufacturing operations Bevan has forged a reputation for repair and maintenance services, operating a team of mobile technicians offering cover across Britain.

As well as maintaining and repairing truck and van bodies of all makes and types, they look after tail-lifts, cranes, shutter doors and other equipment.

Bevan's new Nissan service vans are racked out to carry the tools and equipment its mobile technicians need.

"By the end of July we'll have 20 new vans on the road," Simon said. "That's six more than we were running previously, and reflects rapidly growing demand for our aftercare services."

"Even operators who choose to buy their bodies from our competitors often rely on us to maintain them."

"I'm determined to build on the strong foundations in place to further improve our response times and parts availability."

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NEWS

Police help get needy youngsters on the road



Project founder John Lane with PCSOs Omar Sharif and Faye Cartwright

TWO old police bicycles, at least 20 years old but never used, are being made good as new by a charity to help hard-up families.

The bikes were in storage collecting dust when Dudley Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Omar Sharif found them. He suggested giving them to City-Can-Cycle.

Officers have also donated £500 from a fund raised by the sale of property seized in police investigations to help the Dudley-based organisation with its work to help young people learn new skills.

PCSO Sharif said: "Our maintenance man said the bikes, although never used, would need to be serviced, and that would cost more than they were worth."

Inquest told that tragic pedestrian was drunk

A MAN who was killed when he was hit by a car in a country lane, was more than three times over the drink drive limit for alcohol, an inquest heard.

Avtar Bening was seen staggering in and out of the bushes in the dark in Forge Lane, by another motorist before he was hit near Sandwell Valley Crematorium last July 29.

Mr Bening, 46 and unemployed, died from spinal and head injuries.

At an inquest at Smethwick Council House, driver Rayel Johnson described

the moment he hit Mr Bening, of Alexandra Avenue in Handsworth.

Mr Johnson, of Ada Road in Smethwick, said: "From nowhere this man appeared in front of the car. I never even saw him, I just felt the hit."

The inquest also heard from traffic collision investigator Pc Graham Harrison, who found that the offside dipped light beam on Mr Johnson's Ford Focus was not working.

But he said the light failure would not have made any difference. Mr Johnson would still not have had enough time to react before the collision. In a reconstruction of the crash,

Pc Harrison found the country lane to being 'as dark as it gets'.

He said a blood test showed there were 230 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood in Mr Bening's blood. The legal limit for driving is 80 milligrams.

Black Country Coroner Robin Balmain concluded Mr Bening died as a result of the crash. He said: "This highlights the danger to pedestrians - firstly of walking in the road in very dark clothing and secondly walking at night having drunk a lot of alcohol."

He added: "There is no reason for Mr Johnson to criticise himself."



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MEMORY LANE



Workers with the Silver Bullet at Sunbeam Motors Works prepare it for shipment to the United States



Sunbeam staff proudly posing with the Silver Bullet in February 1930 - immediately before they started packing it up

Silver Bullet missed its target

IT WAS sleek. It was shiny. And it was very fast. But not, as it turned out, nearly fast enough.

The Silver Bullet was the pride of the workforce who created her, a powerful 4,000 horsepower beast engineered and crafted with one aim in mind - to set a new land speed record. It really looked the business as this mechanical marvel was unveiled to the public for the first time on February 21, 1930.

For the avoidance of doubt about where the credit might lie, the words "Designed & Built by the Sunbeam Motor Car Co. Ltd, Wolverhampton, England," were emblazoned on the side. On the nose were two crossed flags - the Stars and Stripes, and the Union Jack, reflecting the fact that this was a British record attempt which would take place in the United States.

According to the internet, photos of the Silver Bullet are rare. But the *Chronicle's* sister paper the *Express & Star*, has rediscovered a clutch of original prints in its archives, some of which may not have been seen for more than 80 years - if ever. The pictures also capture the process of readying the Silver Bullet for its long journey to Daytona Beach in Florida.

Star turn at the unveiling was Kaye Don, the intrepid driver who would be taking to the cockpit in an attempt to recapture the land speed record for Sunbeam. Sir

by Tim Walters

Henry Segrave had reached 231mph in 1929 - breaking the 1927 record of 203mph set by the Sunbeam 1000HP, nicknamed The Slug. The Silver Bullet travelled in a specially constructed reinforced case measuring 31ft by 7ft by 6ft, and weighing about three tons which, with the 4.5 tons of the car, took the total weight over seven tons.

The packing kept a party of eight or 10 men fully occupied for about three hours on the evening of Saturday, February 22. Loading the crate on to a 12-ton, six wheeled lorry to take it to Southampton, took a further hour or so on the Sunday.

Problems

The Silver Bullet finally left the works on the Monday, to be shipped to New York during that week on the liner Berengaria, together with Kaye Don and a team of picked mechanics from the Sunbeam experimental and racing department.

Arriving in mid-March at Daytona Beach, all was ready to bring home the glory to Wolverhampton, where the town was closely following the record bid.

Immediately there were a host of problems. There was trouble with the car's supercharger. The beach also proved to be very bumpy and Don was seen being bounced and bobbed about in the cockpit 'like a jack-in-

a-box'. And the weather was bad. On three early runs, Don only made 101mph. He needed to be able to double that - and more. There were rumours about friction developing in the camp, and of a conference between Don and the designer, Mr Louis Coatalen 'during which both parties displayed some heat'.

On March 21, Don said: "The weather conditions have been awful. It has rained practically every day I have been here. It seems that conditions have been all against us, but I am still more than hopeful. Believe me, I am going to break that record. The Silver Bullet is everything I could ask for. The sands have been the trouble." Genuinely he battled on, making adjustments, tackling technical snags, but not able to do anything about the beach conditions, which were so bad that Don was in danger of being pitched out of the cockpit.

On April 10, it was all over. After a series of runs, Kaye Don abandoned his attempt. In a first trial run, the car bounced perilously as it passed over sand ridges, but reached 182.741mph over the measured mile.

A few changes, and a second run, down to 155.44mph. Further supercharger adjustments. This time, the Silver Bullet reached just 108mph. The game was up.

And the Silver Bullet? It was not destined to end up shiny and polished in a museum or motoring display. It was sold on and eventually scrapped.



Kaye Don failed in his attempt to set a new land speed record



Sleek - the stylish Silver Bullet after it was unveiled to the public

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NEWS

Man sent to prison for dog attack on woman

Boxing show's a knockout



Wayne Evans and Richie Ghent of the Boxfit Studio present a cheque to organisers of Dudley Homeless Shelter after the boxing event

A BOXING show organised by Birmingham-based boxing and personal training studio Boxfit Studio has raised more than £850 for Dudley Homeless Shelter.

At the show in Wolverhampton, some 300 guests were entertained by 10 exhibition matches from students at Boxfit.

Wayne Evans, who is a former European Kickboxing Champion and Director of Boxfit, said: "The evening was a great success and we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part."

"We're delighted that we've been able to raise money for Dudley Homeless Shelter which will go a long way to helping the shelter continue its amazing work."

Dudley Homeless Shelter, based at the Christian Fellowship Centre Sallop Street, Dudley, provides meals on Monday nights and breakfast on Saturday mornings to those in need. It also has a community support officer who assists with housing, benefits and food vouchers as well as a counselling service which is free.

A MAN whose Staffordshire bull terrier cross-breed left a woman with an 'appalling' injury in an attack, has been jailed.

Recovering heroin addict John Round was told the prison sentence should serve as a warning to other dog owners to keep their animals under control.

He got involved in a row between a man and a woman in Cole Street, Netherton, last July, while out with his dog.

He ended up attacking the drunken man, kicking and stamping on him. While the attack was going on, his dog slipped off its lead and bit the woman on her left breast, causing it to tear.

Shrewsbury Crown Court heard that the woman had been left with a scar and was also suffering from depression because of what happened.

Judge Robin Onions sentenced Round, 42, of Cole Street, who had initially denied occasioning actual bodily harm and failing to keep his dog under proper control under the Dangerous Dogs Act, but changed his plea, to 46 weeks in prison.

Judge Onions also barred Round from keeping dogs for two years and ordered the dog must be muzzled and kept on a lead when in public, or be subject to a destruction order.

He said the sentence should serve as a warning to other dog owners.

Two raids investigated

RAIDERS took a wallet from a house in Kidderminster and drove off in the family's car. It is one of two similar raids last week being investigated by police - the other was at Romsley, near Halesowen.

The first happened at a home off Summerhill Avenue. A blue Audi S3 Quattro, registration RPM 601, was stolen. In the raid at Bromsgrove Road, Romsley, a red Land Rover Freelander, OE04 EFK, was stolen.

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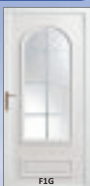
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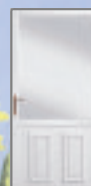
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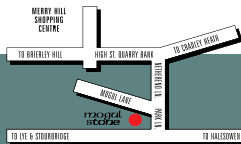
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NEWS

Slimmers in extra large donation to charity shop

SLIMMERS who have shed the pounds are hoping to swell charity coffers – by clearing out their wardrobes.

Slimming World members meeting in Cradley Heath have shed a total of 134 stones since the start of the year.

They have had to buy new clothes to fit their slimmed-down shapes, and instead of throwing out their old outfits, they have donated them to charity.

Group member Glen Willetts, who juggles his time as a carer, helped take bags packed full of clothes to the Halesowen branch of Cancer Research UK, in the town's High Street.

The 53-year-old of Haden Road, Cradley Heath, once tipped the scales at 22st 7lb but slimmed down to 13st 10lb, earning him the title of the group's man of the year.

"I found it really liberating to get rid of all my old clothes, and I'm not worried about ever needing them again, because this is me now. There's no going back," he said.

Wonderful

"I'm much more active now. I walk regularly, and it's all just part of my new life, so much so that I sometimes forget I wasn't always like this.

"And it's wonderful to think that I've supported the other members of the group to achieve their own weight loss dreams at the same time."

Charity shop manager Jean Shaw said: "We welcome clothes in all shapes, sizes and styles and were thrilled to receive such a huge donation of clothing.

Kim Mills, who runs the group which meets at Cradley Heath Liberal Club every Thursday, says members were delighted to get behind the cause.

The Big Slimming World Clothes Throw is a nationwide fundraising drive that sees Slimming World members across the UK donating clothes to Cancer Research UK.



Glen Willetts hands over his old clothes to Margaret Ward, relief manager at Cancer Research UK in Halesowen High Street

MP backs work of male cancer charity

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin is backing a campaign to fund research into forms of male cancer.

Mr Austin wore blue clothes for a day to show his support for Dudley charity Balls to Cancer. His team volunteered to take part after being

approached by the charity's founder Mark Bates.

Money raised by the charity helps pay for male cancer education, awareness and research and organises a range of fundraising activities.

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NEWS



Trinity Property directors Paul Westwood, Nic Burrows and Eric Morse-Brown with the Hawbush FC team

Firm tackles kit problem facing young footballers

A PROPERTY company has saved aspiring footballers at a Brierley Hill housing estate from an embarrassing identity crisis.

As part of the Hawbush Project - a social help enterprise run by Ambleside Christian Centre in Brettell Lane - a team was formed, but the players had no strip.

When church members and property company directors Eric Morse-Brown, Nic Burrows and Paul Westwood heard of the dilemma, they stepped in to help, providing sponsorship with 24 strips for the team.

Mr Morse-Brown, who is based at Trinity Property in Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, said: "It's great to be able to help these lads get kitted out."

Simon Ashby, Hawbush Project director, added: "When we began on the estate a decade ago we had a group of nine and 10-year-olds who played football with us."

"We used to joke that one day they'd be a proper adult team, play in a league and win trophies."

"In 2012 the same lads came to us and asked if we could form an adult side, and here we are today - with a group of 24 16-to 25-year-olds as Hawbush FC preparing for the kick-off

in the third division of the West Midlands Christian Football League."

He added the Hawbush area was hugely deprived, with such issues as family breakdowns, substance abuse and anti-social behaviour.

The estate is also in the bottom 1.3 per cent of the country for its education and in the bottom 10 per cent for deprivation.

"Football plays a massive role in helping to address issues on the estate. It provides a weekly focal point where we can encourage these guys to be socially responsible and find out how best we can meet their needs," added Simon.

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NEWS

Thousands hit by black-out

UP to 2,000 properties in Stourbridge and Lye were hit by a power cut last week.

Homes and businesses suffered the power loss at around 10.10am last Thursday.

Most of them had their power restored by noon the same day. Charlotte Buckley, who works at the Windsor Castle pub in Lye said their power was off for a total of 45 minutes.

She said: "It went off three times. It meant we couldn't do any work."

Western Power Distribution spokeswoman Stella Hayward said the power cut affected 2,000 properties. It is thought the problem was caused by a faulty cable.

Man jailed over robberies is ordered to pay back £9,000

A MAN who was jailed for 17 years for his part in a series of violent robberies in the Midlands has been ordered to pay £9,000 or face a further spell in prison.

Craig Reginald Clarke, formerly of Fareham Road, Birmingham, and four other men, were sentenced at Worcester Crown Court in December 2011.

The gang had plotted a series of robberies, the first in North Worcester-

shire at Barnet Green in April 2010 where several men tied up the occupants before escaping with firearms worth more than £100,000.

Further violent raids were carried out at Solihull in May 2010 and a week later in Lichfield. Cars, cash, jewellery and valuable pottery were among items stolen.

The judge, in sentencing Clarke and the others, said it was 'professional criminality of the utmost seriousness

with terror inflicted on the victims'. Clarke admitted conspiracy to commit three robberies at homes in Barnet Green, at Hampton Lane, Solihull, and Raikes Lane, Lichfield.

West Mercia Police, who led the investigation into the robberies, has now successfully applied for a confiscation order against Clarke for known assets of £9,000.

He reappeared at Worcester Crown Court and was given six months to pay or face a further five months imprisonment.

Mr Pat Kelly, from the West Mercia Police Economic Crime Unit, said: "It was found Clarke had benefited from the crimes to the value of £45,000 and was ordered to pay back £9,000 representing one-fifth of the total outstanding. Others in the gang have faced similar orders. The rest of the stolen property was recovered by the police."

"We will always seek to recover criminals' assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act."

Centre offering tattoo removal

ONE of the region's hospitals is now offering a private body hair and tattoo removal service.

People can now pay privately to use the Birmingham Regional Skin Laser Centre, which is based at the Birmingham Skin Centre at City Hospital.

The unit at the hospital, run by Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals Trust, is now able to offer private laser hair removal, and tattoo removal treatment to people from across the Midlands.

Experts at the centre say that with laser treatment, hair growth becomes progressively slower, finer and lighter, with a possible reduction in hair growth of up to 70 per cent.

Band living the Bon Jovi dream



Of Kings and Captains are, left to right, Kieran Lock, Joshua Lomas, Dean Greatbatch and Luke Wassell

THEY grew up within miles of each other, playing gigs at their favourite pub, gathering a firm following from a few devoted fans.

But now they are on the biggest gig of their lives - rocking out stadiums with Bon Jovi.

Black Country band Of Kings and Captains have sealed a prestigious support slot with the rock heavyweights for five dates during their UK tour.

The four-piece band, all aged 23, live around Quarry Bank, Dudley and Blackheath. They played their first night at the Eithad Stadium, home of Manchester City, and then took to the stage in front of thousands of fans at Villa Park.

Frontman Luke Wassell, started the group with school mate Kieran Lock, and Luke's cousin Dean Greatbatch joined to play

bass and their guitarist friend Josh Lomas completed the band.

All have day jobs. Luke works for a technology management company, Kieran works for an aerospace group at its Netherton factory, Dean is a programmer and setter and Josh works at a department store.

But for the next few weeks they are rock stars.

Kieran said: "We can't believe it. It is a dream for us."

The band got the slot when radio listeners voted for them in a competition.

The bandmates gathered at their favourite pub, Katie Fitzgerald's, in Wollaston, Stourbridge, where they have played several gigs, to await for the result live on air.

And when it came, Luke said the packed pub went wild.

Railway parking boost welcomed

RAIL campaigners have welcomed plans to create an extra 175 parking spaces at Stourbridge Junction railway station.

It is part of a £1.3 million project announced by Centro to expand the park and ride service.

Members of Stourbridge Line User Group (SLUG) said the car park extension would help to meet demand from commuters.

Chairman Rob Hebron said: "I am delighted that years of lobbying have produced a positive effect."

"This will bring the total capacity to almost 1,000. I cannot overstate how fortunate

we are in having free car parking at key stations and it is a major factor in raising demand for train services."

There are now 780 spaces at Stourbridge Junction - 381 on the main site by the station buildings and 401 spaces on an overflow car park off Brook Road.

But there is a large demand for the spaces with the car parks often full to capacity by the end of the morning rush hour. Nearby roads also become clogged with cars left by commuters.

Stourbridge MP Margot James has also welcomed the revamp work which is due to start in summer 2014.

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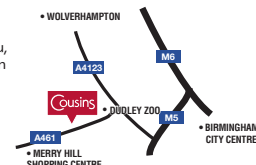
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Service acts to prevent risk of falls

PEOPLE in the Dudley area are being urged to look after their feet in a campaign to reduce the number of people suffering falls in later life.

Members of Dudley Council's falls service, which provides a free service to over-65s, are urging on people to keep their feet healthy to lower the risk of falling. The service says that every year, one in three people aged over 65 will suffer a fall.

Dudley falls service can be contacted on 01384 814459.

Royal honours for unsung heroes



Dorothy Clarke MBE

UNSUNG heroes have been celebrating after they were recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Among the Black Country people honoured for their achievements was **Dorothy Clarke** who was made an MBE for services to elderly people and to the communities of Pedmore, Stourbridge and Little Cornbow, Halesowen.

For almost three decades the 85-year-old has been at the helm of Pedmore Senior Citizens Club, which organises an array of lunches, entertainment and talks for pensioners.

And she has also been chairman of the

over-50s club in Little Cornbow, Halesowen for 12 years. Mrs Clarke, who lives in Pedmore with her husband of 61 years, Terry, has three children, five grandchildren and a great-grandchild on the way.

She said being made an MBE was 'absolutely amazing'.

And she added: "It's a great honour. I thoroughly enjoy my work."

Entertainment

"So many people are lonely, they just need somewhere to meet other people, enjoy a nice lunch or some entertainment and then they leave smiling."

Jean Hughes was awarded a British Empire Medal for services to the community through her keep fit classes, and her

contribution to charity in Kingswinford. The 77-year-old has been running exercise classes in Wordsley and the surrounding area for 41 years.

With the help of her group, she has raised more than £115,000 for good causes by staging events and raffles.

Mother-of-one Mrs Hughes, who lives with husband of 56 years, Ray, in Kingswinford, said: "I do my keep fit classes because I enjoy them, and the charity work because I want to help other people. I don't do it all to get an award, but it is nice to receive it."

"I have a great group of ladies who help me so I accept this award on behalf of my group too," she said.



Jean Hughes BEM

Hundreds in sad farewell to ex-mayor

FIREFIGHTERS formed a guard of honour at the funeral of Dudley councillor George Davies on Tuesday – what would have been his 76th birthday.

Hundreds of mourners packed into St Chad's Church, Coseley to pay their respects to Councillor Davies, a former mayor of Dudley.

He had represented Coseley across five decades and was a member of the region's fire authority for a quarter of a century.



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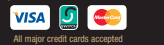
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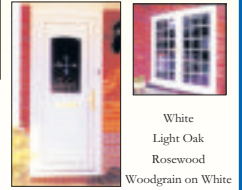
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Success of festival to mark strike

A FESTIVAL celebrating an historic strike by women chainmakers in Cradley Heath attracted more than 1,000 people.

The ninth Women Chainmakers' festival at Bearmore Mound in Bearmore Park, featured archery, stalls, martial arts demonstrations and live music.

It was organised by the Trades Union Congress and Sandwell Council and was attended by Sylvia Heal, former MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis.

Terminally ill man, 56, tried to use fake licence

A TERMINALLY ILL man used a fake Bulgarian driving licence to try to spend the summer riding a motorbike, a court heard.

Leonard Hawthorne had a full UK driving licence but wanted to use a motorbike, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. He had had the fake licence for some time and attempted to use it to get permission to ride a motor-

bike included on his licence. The 56-year-old, of Dudley, has prostate cancer, the court heard. He had not been in trouble before the age of 52 when he was given a six-year prison term for rioting while being involved with a motorcycle gang.

Prosecutor Mark Phillips said: "Since being released from prison he said he was terminally ill and wanted to spend the summer driving a bike."

After submitting the fake licence

Hawthorne was arrested and later pleaded guilty to possessing identity documents with intent. Andrew Wallace, defending, said the offence 'was not a particularly bright thing to do'. He added: "It must have looked odd having the name Leonard Hawthorne on a Bulgarian licence."

Hawthorne was given a 12-month community order, told to pay £250 in costs, and ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

Glasses raised to beer festival



June Hodgetts with Ian Davies, of Kinver Brewery, and Martin Wilkins, of Black Country Ales

ORGANISERS are preparing for their first real ale festival at the Dudley canal tunnels this month.

More than 30 beers will be on offer at the Dudley Canal Trust event, which runs for three days from June 27, at Todd's End, off Birmingham New Road.

Money raised from the event will boost trust coffers, with plans in the pipeline to build a £3 million education and exhibition centre at the attraction.

The event runs 6pm to 11pm on June 27 and from 11am to 11pm on the following days. There will be around 30 ales available.

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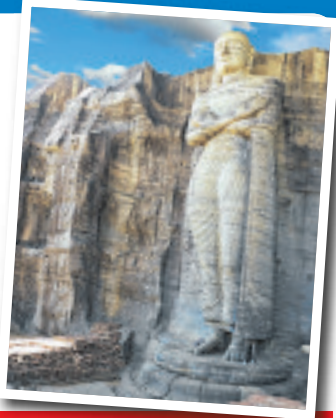
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For a different sort of experience, two nights are reserved at the Safari Hotel, which has a pool, bar and restaurant overlooking the Tiffa Lake. Just 45 minutes from the Yala National Park this is the base for an early morning start to the jeep safari in the hope of seeing leopard, elephants, saltwater crocodiles, wild boar, sloth bears, monitor lizards and a huge variety of birdlife. The three-star superior Palms Hotel in the beach resort of Beruwela is the final port of call, allowing for two days of rest and relaxation before the journey home.



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CLUB NEWS

Hamper prize just the ticket for raffle winner

Victorian genius is talk topic

WALL HEATH E TG

CHAIRMAN Pat Purcell, opened the meeting and welcomed members and guest for the evening, Joyce Major, federation committee member.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer Elaine Griffiths gave the financial statement for the month. Walks this month were led by Sheila Tromans to the Bluebell Woods at Saltwells and lunch was taken at the Stewart Crystal Cane cafe.

The craft group were still meeting making various projects.

Names were being taken for the federation lunch, which is to be held at the Mill, Alveley, on July 29.

The National Carol Service will be held in Coventry Cathedral on December 17.

Members held a stall at the Wall Heath Community Centre Spring Fayre on Saturday May 11.

A fashion show will be held on July 11 at the community centre.

The raffle was drawn and the winner was Pat Sutton who won a fruit and vegetable hamper.

The speaker Ned Williams then gave an interesting talk on Brierley Hill, and Pat Purcell gave the vote of thanks.

Wall Heath Guild meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.



Wolverhampton historian Ned Williams was guest speaker at the last meeting

BLACK COUNTRY SOCIETY, KINGSWINFORD BRANCH

AT the meeting at St Mary's church hall on May 15, Ray Sturdy was the speaker. Brunel - A Victorian Genius talk was accompanied by superb slides.

Brunel's father, Mark, was a great engineer and inventor and had contracts with the Navy. He was knighted by Queen Victoria.

His son, Isambard Kingdom Brunel was inspired and he too wanted to become an engineer and worked as the project manager for his father. From then on he worked on a great scale with his gigantic ships, new railways, bridges and tunnels. These works changed the way of life and many are still in use today.

It was a fascinating story and amazing to think what he achieved in his short life.

The chairman thanked Ray for his excellent talk and presentation.

Graham and Rosalie were thanked for providing coffee during the illness of Keith Jeavons.

The June 19 meeting at St Mary's Church Hall was to be the last one of the season. The AGM will be followed by the New Dimensional Experience Choir led by Mr John Quelch. To end the evening a buffet supper was taking place.

Tea and cakes for birthday

PENN TG

AT the May 8 birthday meeting, Mrs McInnes welcomed everyone and the usual business was completed.

The mandates for the AGM at Harrogate were debated. Townswomen's Guild supports a change in the law to allow terminally ill, mentally competent people to have a right to an assisted

death. Delegate Annie Woods will vote for the motion as most of the members agreed with the change.

Ian Bott was the speaker for the evening showing picture postcards from the Black Country. The evening

was rounded off with tea and cakes to celebrate the guild's birthday.

At Social Studies, Justin Harrison, a nurseryman, gave an enthusiastic talk on plants and shrubs, how to get the most from colours and foliage, what fertilisers to use, when to prune various plants and other tips.

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NEWS

Father hopes to run up a big total for hospital



Shane Brotherton and Craig Shein, from Bloxwich, who are to do the Great Midlands Fun Run, to raise money for the neonatal unit at New Cross Hospital. They are pictured with Shane's partner Jill Powell and son Ewan, aged five months, who spent time being cared for in the unit after being born three months premature

A FATHER from Bloxwich whose son was born three months prematurely is raising money as a thank you to the hospital that saved his life.

Tiny Ewan Brotherton weighed just 2lbs when he was born at New Cross Hospital in December. He spent seven weeks in the neonatal unit and, five months later, he is fully fit.

Ewan's father Shane completed the Great Midlands Fun Run in Sutton Coldfield. The 29-year-old clocked a time of one hour 16 minutes over the 8.5 mile run, while his cousin Craig Shein, also running for the hospital, finished in one hour 14 minutes.

Mr Brotherton, of Lower Farm, Bloxwich, was full of praise for the hospital staff who helped save his baby son.

He said: "Ewan was born at 27 weeks and the staff at the hospital were amazing. They basically saved his life and we possibly could not thank them enough."

Pub

"Ewan was in there for the first seven weeks of his life. They did so much for him and us."

Mr Brotherton and Mr Shein, 32, both work at the One Man and His Dog pub in Bloxwich.

The pair have already raised more

than £400 and are aiming to hit the £500 mark for the good cause.

Mr Brotherton said both his partner Jill-Marie Powell, 29, and Ewan were doing well.

"Ewan had some bleeding on the brain and problems with his lungs but he is a happy and healthy child."

"His mum recovered well and we just wanted to do something to show our appreciation for the hospital."

"We are a close family and me and Craig decided to do the run together. We have been training for weeks."

"We're looking at keeping up the running and may attempt a half marathon next year."

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NEWS

Match is to boost charities

CRICKET fans are being urged to pitch in and support the Mayor of Dudley's charities at an annual match.

A team of Dudley Council officers will be taking on a team of members in a 20-over a side match for the mayor's charities.

The teams will go head to head at Stourbridge Cricket Club on June 28 at 6pm.

All proceeds will go to the charities the mayor has pledged to support - White House Cancer Support, Dudley, and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

Councillor Alan Finch, Mayor of Dudley, said: "It will be great entertainment."

Campaigners win in battle to save town centre loos



Councillors Tracy Wood, centre, and Qadar Zada, right, with residents who won their campaign

CAMPAIGNERS have won a fight to have public toilets reopened in Netherton town centre after councillors agreed to a £7,000 revamp project.

Traders had called for the toilet block in Halesowen Road to be opened again saying they were much-needed.

Eight toilet blocks were closed in Dudley borough, including Netherton, two years ago. It came as part of a bid to find £150,000 annual savings by council officers. The council said they

were outdated, under-used and some had been targeted by vandals.

But the move was unpopular with communities including Netherton where people have campaigned for the facilities to be reopened. Now it has been announced the Netherton toilets will reopen this summer following a refurbishment.

Ward councillors Qadar Zada and Tracy Wood have worked alongside community campaigners to lead the fight to reinstate the only public toilets in the town.

The decision was being formalised at the Netherton, Woodside and St

Andrews community forum by committee chairman Councillor Zada.

He said: "We promised we would reinstate the toilets and I am delighted that we have delivered on our promise."

"I'd like to thank the local residents and businesses for their support."

Toilet blocks remain closed in Flood Street, Dudley; Castle Street, Coseley; Bank Road, Lower Gornal; Lawnswood Road, Wordsley; The Cross, Kingswinford; Enville Road, Wall Heath and Cottage Street, Brierley Hill. But residents have appealed for the Labour administration to reopen the facilities.

Fairy tale fun will be on offer

DUDLEY borough libraries will be celebrating National Bookstart week with a theme of traditional fairy tales.

The campaign, which runs for a week from June 24, offers free books to all children before they start school.

Library staff will attend Merry Hill's Mummy Morning on June 25.

There will be a special bedtime story session at Kingswinford Library on the same day from 5.30-6.30pm.

On June 27, storyteller Sally Tonge will entertain at Stourbridge Library from 9.30-10.30am, Brierley Hill Library from 11.15am-12.15pm and Sedgley Library from 1.30-2.30pm.

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Students' art is put on display



Emily Brady with an example of her 3D design work

TALENTED art and design students from Stourbridge College are showcasing their creations in their end of year shows at the college's Art and Design Centre in Brierley Hill.

Textiles, 3D pieces and even an orange slice-inspired sculpture feature in the display from the University of Arts London Foundation Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Fine Art students.

The second showcase will feature work from the BTCE Extended Diploma and the University of Arts London Level 2 Diploma, and will be on display from June 25 to 29. Andy Sylvester, assistant principal for Creative Industries, said: "Once again our art and design students have shown outstanding levels of creativity and have created some fantastic pieces of work which we are proud to show off."

"Our unique partnership with the University of Arts London Awarding Body is the only partnership of its kind within a fifty mile radius of our region meaning that our foundation courses are kite marked and acknowledged by six of the top international art colleges in London."

Holly's film has a life-saving message

A FILM maker from Stourbridge, Holly Wilkinson, has been short-listed as a finalist in the annual Organ Donation Through A Lens short film competition run by NHS Blood and Transplant, with



Holly Wilkinson

bridge can help Holly by viewing her film online and encouraging others to do the same.

The films are on www.youtube.com/transplantweek, and the one with the most views by tomorrow (Friday) will win the People's favourite award. The competition winner will be announced in July.

wanted the film to have a sense of magic to it, because organ donation is a magical and wonderful thing."

The judges included big names from the world of TV production.

People in Stourbridge can help Holly by viewing her film online and encouraging others to do the same.

The films are on www.youtube.com/transplantweek, and the one with the most views by tomorrow (Friday) will win the People's favourite award. The competition winner will be announced in July.

Commercial Feature

Children and staff work hard to raise standards



The Early Years group play and have fun at the same time



Year 4 taking part in a research project on places of worship

by Ashna Sandha and Bobbie Pearshouse-Oliver (Year 6 pupils)

AT Old Hill Primary, children and staff are working extremely hard to raise the school's standards.

Every day, staff are ensuring that the pupils of Old Hill Primary and Nursery are reaching their expected level.

Our attendance is closely monitored and we even have an attendance cup to encourage pupils to come to school. Parents say that this competition is making their children more enthusiastic.

We have numerous residential trips and rewards to treat children for their hard work. Trips children have attended are: Edmond Hall, Frank Chapman, Forest School, Drayton Manor, Cosford Museum and many more. An exciting trip to Plas Gwynant awaits the children of year six.

We also have after-school clubs consisting of sport, technology and learning. Children have claimed that they enjoy after-school clubs and they appreciate the teachers' hard work.

Concentrating

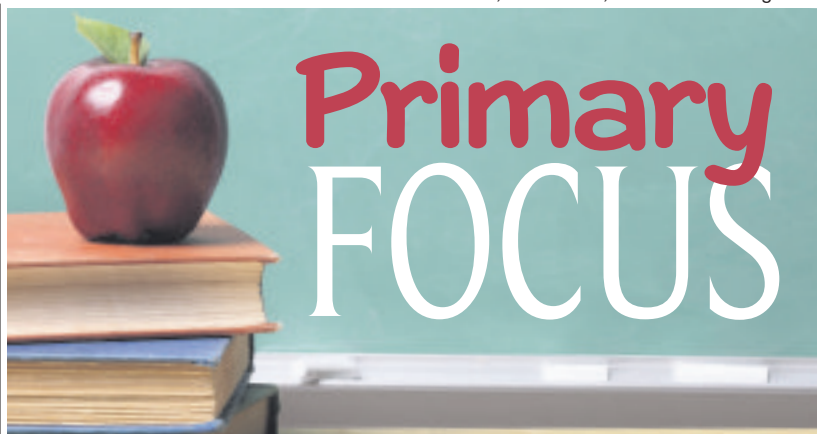
Our children are highly disciplined as they know that bad behaviour is not acceptable. It is certain that our behaviour has improved throughout the school.

We are extremely proud of Year six, as they are the first class where some children have been selected to participate in the level six exams. Children's levels are rising because they enjoy learning and concentrating on their work.

Our school has a wide range of facilities including: Nurture Room, Community Room a mobile classroom where we can cook and participate in art and craft activities.

We have an exceptionally good relationship with parents. Our playground has many areas for children to amuse themselves.

Ofsted commented that pupils are polite, friendly and proud of their school and they have positive attitudes towards learning. Bullying in our school is exceedingly rare and children say they feel secure within the school's premises.



COLLEY LANE Primary School

Supporting the move to secondary school



In Year 6 at Colley Lane, we pride ourselves in supporting our children as they move on and upwards to secondary school. We work to provide opportunities for the children to apply team work and social skills, as they prepare themselves for new pastures.

We hope that year 6 will be able to apply these skills in a positive way, when making new friends, as they take their next step into high school.

Good luck to you all

OFSTED Interim Report: March 2013 said we are "consistently good"

Colley Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 2TN

Telephone: (01384) 816765 E-Mail: info@colley.dudley.sch.uk Headteacher: Mr J K White

Old Hill Primary School and Nursery



"Aiming higher every day"

This is an up and coming school:

Our school motto is 'Aiming Higher Every day' and the staff and children are trying hard to achieve their goals.

Every child in Year 1 attended Forest School and two children commented "Forest School is fantastic and we enjoyed learning about the fire pit and how to stay safe"

A child in year 6 said "We have a Community Room which is used for meetings and to help parents who need advice or want to attend Literacy and Numeracy classes.

Children in Year 3 say "We love this school and think it is the best school in Sandwell"

Lawrence Lane, Cradley Heath, West Midlands, B64 6DR

Head Teacher Mrs S Fenby Business Manager Mrs K Raybould.

E-Mail headteacher@oldhill.sandwell.sch.uk Web Address www.oldhillprimary.com

Telephone 01384 569213 Fax 01384 413216

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Norfolk House School is an independent school for children aged between 3 and 11 years

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Norfolk House Nursery is a day nursery for children aged between 3 months and 4 years

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October 2013

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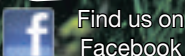
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NEWS

Industrial heritage art comes down to the wire



Sculptor Luke Perry at Solid Swivel in Cradley Heath with his inspiring pieces that will depict Darlaston history

AWARD-WINNING artist Luke Perry is adding the finishing touches to sculptures paying homage to a Black Country town.

Luke Perry's artworks will be housed inside Grace Academy Darlaston's new £26 million building, when it opens in September. The eight statues have been inspired by the town's coal-mining and manufacturing heritage and are designed to create an 'inspiring walkway' at the school's entrance.

Mr Perry, aged 30, who founded the non-profit public artworks company

Industrial Heritage Stronghold, said: "I wanted to visually create a pathway to tell the history of the town and also represent the future."

"The sculptures are a narrative that starts with a coal miner in the squatting position, moving through more proud postures, to an oversized figure representing hope and progress in the area."

The project has been jointly commissioned by the school with Walsall Council. David Shaw, the school's principal, said: "We commissioned Luke's project because we felt it was really grounded in the community and cap-

tured the Black Country's heritage, as well as having links to the future and the positive impact of education."

"Our students have taken several trips to Luke's studio to see the manufacture of the sculptures in progress and this has been a great inspiration to them."

"We can't wait to welcome our students to the new building that will open its doors for the first time in September."

"It offers a great opportunity for their development and learning, as well as being a great resource for the local community."

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What's On! Halesowen

REVIEW

Buddy Holly
— A Legend Reborn
Grand Theatre

WELL he certainly looked the part, although the legs were doing a lot of shaking even for a Buddy Holly tribute, but the voice was just not quite right.

Billed as the UK's No 1 Buddy Holly, Marc Robinson, a winner from ITV's Stars in Their Eyes, was certainly a good performer and kept the packed Grand Theatre amused with his banter.

Unfortunately the voice did not quite match that of the iconic Buddy, although the memorable songs were all there — Peggy Sue, That'll Be the Day and Heartbeat, to name but a few.

Strong

The band, The Counterfeit Crickets were very accomplished but the star was definitely lead guitarist, Adrian McKenna, who could certainly play and had a very good voice as well.

For sheer entertainment value it was the, now 77-year-old, rock 'n' roll icon Jess Conrad who starred with the audience as he recalled happy days at the Grand many years ago but his voice was a bit shaky.

Annie Scott as Connie Francis gave a very strong performance with Stupid Cupid and Who's Sorry Now.

The show was well received but despite calls for an encore the performers did not come back on, shame as I think some fans were hoping for a few dance numbers at the end.

SUE ATTWATER

Disastrous farce is really a clever comedy success

WEST End farce **Noises Off** has hit the road, just like the bickering, accident-prone theatre company portrayed in this revival of **Michael Frayne's** backstage comedy, being staged at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre.

Not just any old Irons at film concert

BRITISH star of stage and screen **Jeremy Irons** will be film critic **Mark Kermode's** special guest when the bequipped movie expert holds his 50th birthday concert in Birmingham next month.

Academy Award-winner **Irons** will share anecdotes with **Kermode** during the event on July 9 at **Symphony Hall**, Birmingham, during a programme of film music performed by the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra**.

Music will range from **Mary Poppins** to **The Exorcist**, conducted by **Robert Ziegler**. Tickets start from £12.50 to £40. Call 0121 780 4949.

Noises Off was the most successful show ever staged by London's acclaimed **Old Vic**.

The show is a farce-within-a-farce about a travelling troupe's attempt to stage an appallingly unfunny farce which turns into a catalogue of disasters and backstage squabbles.

Chaotic

It is done in three acts, starting with last-minute rehearsals, then a backstage view of the action and the final chaotic performance of **Nothing On**. If you liked **One Man Two Guvnors**, this will be worth catching at the **Alex** between Monday and Saturday.

In another play within a play, a stage murder turns real in **Murder In Play**, starting the **Summer Rep** season at **Wolverhampton Grand** from Tuesday to Saturday. Before that **OBeebies' hit Grandpa in my Pocket** will be live at the **Grand** until this Saturday, June 22.



It's still rock and roll to him — American hitmaker Billy Joel is coming to the LG Arena

The Piano Man back in action

BILLY Joel will return to the UK for the first time in seven years to perform in late autumn — including a gig at **Birmingham LG Arena** on November 8, one of only three UK concerts.

Having sold more than 150 million albums worldwide since his 1973 breakthrough **Piano Man**, Joel is one of the most popular entertainers in the world.

His hits include **Only The Good Die Young**, **Just The Way You Are**, **My Life**, **It's Still Rock and Roll To Me**, **Uptown Girl**, **The River** of **Dreams** and **An Innocent Man**.

The six-time **Grammy** Award winner has also earned numerous awards and honours including induction into **The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame**.

Tickets start at £60.50. 0844 338 8000.

REVIEW

Lisa Stansfield,
Symphony Hall

A **NORTHERN** soul DJ acted as the support act for the return of **Rochdale** soul singer **Lisa Stansfield**, and the vintage sounds actually pointed the way forward for the 1980s hit-maker.

Two of the new songs unveiled by the elegant 47-year-old were big ballads in an old time soul style, prompting standing ovations and proving Adele isn't the only belter around.

Lower

Having said that, closing the proper set was a fiery new dancefloor number **Can't Dance** that fit in well with the smooth '80s hits that the fans mainly wanted to hear.

They were not disappointed. **Stansfield's** voice is a little lower and she sometimes seemed distracted, flicking at her ponytail, but she delivered the hits — including **Someday**, **All Woman** and inevitable **encore All Around The World** with power and passion.

LEON BURAKOWSKI

US soul legend due at Robin

AMERICAN soul legend **Ben E King** has announced a gig in **Bilston**.

The 74-year-old singer from **New Jersey** will appear with **Jimmy James** and the **Vagabonds** at the **Robin 2** club on **September 8**.

Ben E King's solo hits include the classic **Stand by Me**. He also had a string of hits with **The Drifters**.

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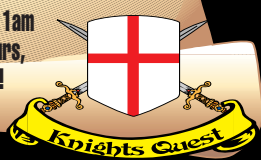
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What's On!

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CHOICE



Michael Buble

The Voice UK: The Live Final
BBC1, 7.15pm
Following six weeks of blind auditions, three battle shows, two knockout rounds and two live programmes, there are now four players left in the game. There's also that recording contract at stake, and the chance to follow 2012 runner-up Bo Bruce into the Top 100 album charts. Here the 2013 hopefuls will perform a solo number, then duet with their coaches. After which, the act with the fewest votes leaves the competition. Plus, there will be a performance by Canadian crooner Michael Buble.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 2.00 Live Athletics.
6.05 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.
6.20 Pointless Celebrities. Soap special, with Laila Morse, Anna Karen, Verity Rushworth, Adele Silva, Sue Jenkins, Alex Fletcher, Wendi Peters and Rula Lenska. (R)
7.15 The Voice UK: The Live Final. The four remaining contestants perform a solo number and then duet with their coaches before The Voice 2013 is announced. Plus, a performance by Michael Buble. Last in the series.
9.20 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws. The all-important winning numbers are revealed.
9.30 Casualty. Fletch heads out in the ambulance with Dixie and Jeff for the day, but has a run-in with a gang of teenagers threatening a man as he cowers in his flat.
10.20 BBC News: Weather.
10.40 Match of the Day. Italy v Brazil and Japan v Mexico. Highlights of the final Confederations Cup Group A matches, held in Salvador and Belo Horizonte, Brazil; National Lottery Update.
11.30 Film: Arlington Road. (1999) A man suspects his new neighbours are terrorists, but struggles to convince anyone else that he is not simply being paranoid. Thriller, starring Jeff Bridges.
1.20 Weatherview. 1.25 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.10 Film: Higher and Higher. (1943) 7.35 Film: Trail Street. (1947) 9.00 A History of Scotland. (R) 10.00 Real History of Britain. (R) 10.30 Life in the Freezer. (R) 11.00 Life in the Freezer. (R) 11.30 Just a Minute. (R) 12.00 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 12.45 Tennis from Eastbourne. 3.05 EastEnders. (R) 5.00 Flog It!
6.00 Horizon: The Secret Life of the Cat. An experiment in which 50 domestic cats are tagged with GPS collars and cameras to track and record their every movement, revealing how they act away from their owners. (R)
7.00 Horizon: Little Cat Diaries. The results of the investigation into the behaviour of domestic cats documented in The Secret Life of the Cat, revealing how they act away from their owners. (R)
7.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring sets his sights on Frazer's savings. (R)
8.00 The Many Faces of Helen Mirren. A profile of the actress, who became a household name through her portrayal of DCI Jane Tennison in Prime Suspect and won an Oscar for playing Elizabeth II in The Queen. (R)
9.00 Film: Calendar Girls. (2003) Fact-based comedy, starring Helen Mirren, Julie Walters, Annette Crosbie, Celia Imrie and Penelope Wilton.
10.45 Qi XL. With Brian Blessed, Sean Lock and Ross Noble. (R)
11.30 Film: The Mosquito Coast. (1986) Drama, starring Harrison Ford.
1.20 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.10 Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.25 The Hive. (R) 6.35 The Hive. (R) 6.40 Dino Dan. (R) 6.55 Dino Dan. (R) 7.05 Animals. (R) 7.15 Animals. (R) 7.20 Almost Naked Animals. (R) 7.35 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Dinner Date. (R) 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 10.15 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.10 TV News: Weather. 11.15 Saturday Farm. 12.15 All Star Mr & Mrs. (R) 1.20 River Monsters. (R) 2.20 Film: Columbus: A Matter of Honour. (1976) 3.55 Film: The 'Burbis. (1989) 5.45 Regional Programme: Weather.
6.00 ITV News: Weather.
6.15 You've Been Framed! Clips include a skateboarding mum. (R)
6.45 You've Been Framed! More comical clips, including a man taking on a big spider. (R)
7.15 Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Family Special. With Caroline Flack, Joe McEllderry and Stephen Mangan.
8.15 The Nation's Favourite Dance Moment. A countdown of the top 20 dance routines chosen by viewers, featuring iconic sequences from films such as Saturday Night Fever and music videos including Michael Jackson's Thriller.
9.45 The Americans. An assassin tries to kill President Reagan.
10.40 ITV News: Weather.
10.55 Film: Terminator 2: Judgment Day. (1991) Sci-fi action adventure sequel, with Arnold Schwarzenegger.
1.25 Jackpot247. 3.00 In Plain Sight. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 British GT. 7.05 The Grid. 7.30 Ironman 2013. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 The Morning Line. 10.00 Frasier. (R) 11.05 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.05 The Simpsons. (R) 12.35 Heston's Fantastic Food. (R) 1.40 Royal Ascot: Channel 4 Racing.
6.00 Stephen Fry: Gadget Man.
The actor tries out technology that makes shopping easier and tests an array of kitchen gadgets as he prepares to host a dinner party for Darren Brown, Carol Vorderman and Jo Brand. (R)
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 World's Wildest Weather. Alex Beresford explores strange weather associated with fire. (R)
8.00 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud follows a couple knocking down an old Thames boathouse and building a cutting-edge home in its place – in the middle of a community dominated by traditional houses. (R)
9.00 The Million Pound Drop Live. Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants are challenged to place large quantities of the cash over trapdoors as they face a series of questions.
10.35 The Big Dirty List Show: 50 Years of Sex and Music. The most seductive songs from the past 50 years.
12.05 Darren Brown: The Gameshow. (R) 1.15 Royal Ascot Highlights. 1.40 The Million Pound Drop Live. (R) 3.10 Dr Brown. (R) 3.35 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.40 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) 5.45 SuperScrimpers. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.20 Power Rangers Samurai. (R) 10.55 ThunderCats. (R) 11.20 The Hotel Inspector. 12.20 Big Brother: Live Eviction. (R) 1.45 Film: Rio Bravo. (1959) 4.30 Film: El Dorado. (1966)
6.55 The CSI Movie: Revenge. Feature-length episode. A serial killer appears to be on the loose, while Mac reconnects with his former CSI partner after being stalked by an ex-con. Guest starring Peter Fonda.
8.20 NCIS. Gibbs is held captive by Paloma Reynosa, head of a drug cartel and daughter of the man he killed, and forced to make a decision with wide-reaching consequences. (R)
9.15 5 News Weekend.
9.20 Big Brother. Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house, including coverage of the first eviction as seen from the point of view of the contestants.
10.20 Big Brother's Bit on the Psych. AJ Odudu is joined by experts and psychologists to analyse the behaviour of the housemates during their first full week.
11.20 Neighbours: This Week. Hour-long episode featuring highlights from Ramsay Street over the past week, when Kate discovered ex-lover Mark Brennan is still alive and Steph kidnapped Vanessa's baby.
12.25 SuperCasino. 3.55 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.20 Make It Big. (R) 4.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.10 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.25 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You **7.30 Match of the Day Live 10.15 Live at the Apollo 11.00 Family Guy 11.45 American Dad!**
BBC Four
7.00 Britain on Film: Times of Change **7.30 BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2013 9.00 Wollander: Sidelacked 10.15 Kings of Rock 'n' Roll 11.15 Classic Albums**
ITV2
2.20 Film: Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home (1995) 4.15 You've Been Framed! 6.15 Film: Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) 9.00 Film: The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006) 11.05 Lemon La Vida Loca 11.55 Britain's Got More Talent: Most Amazing Moments
ITV3
3.00 Film: Murder, She Wrote: South by Southwest (1997) 4.55 Foyle's War 6.55 Agatha Christie's Marple 8.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot 11.00 Blue Murder
ITV4
3.50 British Superbike Championship Highlights 4.50 The Motorbike Show 5.50 Film: Escape to Victory (1981) 8.10 Film: Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach (1988) 10.00 Hell on Wheels 10.55 Film: Escape from New York (1981)
E4
3.00 Made in Chelsea 4.00 Rules of Engagement 5.30 The Mindy Project 6.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 How I Met Your Mother 7.30 Happy Endings 8.00 How I Met Your Mother 8.30 2 Broke Girls 9.00 Film: Aeon Flux (2005) 10.50 The Inbetweeners 11.55 The Big Bang Theory
Film4
2.50 Ladyhawke (1985) 5.10 Coraline (2009) 7.10 Bedazzled (2000) 9.00 Die Hard (1988) 11.35 Dog Soldiers (2002)

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Denture troubles? Unable to live life spontaneously?

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THERE'S seemingly an impossible amalgamation between glamour and dentures, but these unlikely descriptive bedfellows are increasingly being thrown together at a ground-breaking Dudley clinic.

Under the watchful eye of dentist Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng), founder of the Denture Clinic, based in North Street, hi-spec prescriptions are helping turn back the hands of time.

Recently, the practice has undergone a major refurbishment, with three disciplines – general dentistry (North Street Dental), implantology (Total Implant Solutions) and the prescribing and manufacturing of dentures (Denture Clinic) all under one roof.

Key to a £1m investment are two new ground-floor surgeries, an level main entrance at the rear, disabled-friendly facilities and a large car park with a drop-off point right outside the reception area. A champion for those who wear dentures, Steven has spent more than ten years campaigning to "break the taboo over false teeth." He is evangelical about what new generation dentures can achieve.

"Dentures have traditionally never been associated with cosmetic



makeovers, but our high-quality prosthetics have quite literally taken years off some of our patients," he said.

"People have come to us with ill-fitting dentures, sunken cheeks and pinched lips and we have been privileged to transform their looks. Can dentures be glamorous? Emphatically, yes.

"We are on the cusp of development, so that those who entrust their smile to us can be sure they will be advised on best options."

Steven's work has attracted people from all walks of life, including a former SAS mountain warfare specialist, an airline pilot, a multi-millionaire with his own jet, health professionals and "ordinary

salt-of-the-earth people from the Black Country." The clinic's prosthetics, hand-crafted at laboratories at the Dudley and Wolverhampton practices, have also found satisfied patients from as far away as Spain and Portugal. And the secret of his success? A seamless service to clients, where clinical assessment and the crafting of prescriptions are all in-house.

"It's a simple formula," said Steven, "but it has allowed me to be fastidious about the quality and we will never compromise on best clinical outcomes."

He admitted that denture wearers are one of the most challenging groups to treat successfully.

"I believe many of them have had a bad deal for years, but we are in the vanguard of changing outcomes and hopefully changing some lives for the better too," said Steven.

Steven draws on more than 30 years' experience in all disciplines of dental technology to produce his hallmark "functional, natural-looking teeth."

Having completed his training as a dental technician and started his own laboratory, Steven enrolled on a three-and-a-half year CDT training course with the George Brown College in Toronto, Canada, to enable him to work in his dental discipline independently of a dentist.

Graduating with honours, Steven undertook a further year's study under the auspices of The Royal College of Surgeons.

Options

Traditional

THE Denture Clinic is renowned for its natural look. Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), says: "Quality, traditional dentures can be hugely effective."

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DENTURES which use suction to stay in place are helping to resolve common stability problems. The Ultra Suction teeth are held in place by tiny valve-operated devices fitted into the prosthetic.

Implant retained DENTURES retained by implants offer a guaranteed solution to stability issues. Implant procedures are available at the Denture Clinic Dudley and Wolverhampton premises through Total Implant Solutions.



Steven Burchell
Dip CDT RCS (Eng)
(GDC108353)
with Denture Clinic
manager Peter Brookes
(GDC124429)



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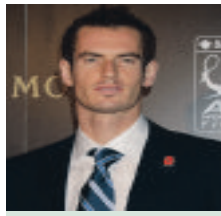
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What's On!

Listings supplied by Press Association

SUNDAY'S TV 23.06.13

CHOICE



Andy Murray

Andy Murray: The Man Behind the Racquet BBC1, 10.25pm

Last year was an amazing one for Andy Murray – at the Olympics he won gold in the men's singles and silver in the mixed doubles, reached the Wimbledon's men's final, he also won millions of new fans thanks to his obvious heartbreak at failing to become the first British champion since Fred Perry, and in September became the US Open champion – making him the first male UK Grand Slam winner since 1936. This programme charts Andy's build-up to 2013's Wimbledon. Fingers crossed his efforts aren't in vain.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.20** Countryfile. (R) **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Perfection. (R) **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.45** Lifetime. **4.55** Songs of Praise. **5.30** Earthflight. (R) **6.30** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **7.00** Countryfile. The story of the smugglers who used to operate on Romney Marsh in Kent, and whether bringing super-fast broadband to the northern English countryside is worth the expense; Weather for the Week Ahead. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. The experts visit RAF Marham in Norfolk, where items include a statue of Buddha and mementos of the architect Pugin, brought in by his great-great-grandson. Last in the series. Red button viewers can play along by guessing the valuations. **9.00** The White Queen. Elizabeth ensures her family's security by marrying off her siblings to the nobility, angering the Neville sisters – so Warwick plots to find husbands for his unhappy daughters. **10.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **10.25** Andy Murray: The Man Behind the Racquet. A profile of the US Open champion, following the tennis star on and off the court. **11.25** Film: Before Sunrise. (1995) Romantic drama, starring Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy. **1.00** Weatherview. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.40** Film: Born to Be Bad. (1950) **8.10** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.40** The A to Z of TV Gardening. **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Live Rowing. **1.30** Wimbledon: Review of 2012. **2.30** Live Athletics. The European Team Championships. **6.15** Flog It! Will Axon and Elizabeth Talbot hunt for antiques in Glaston-on-Sea, Essex, with valuable finds including a stool hidden beneath bad upholstery, and a painting. (R) **7.00** Venus and Serena. A profile of tennis stars the Williams sisters, telling the story of their rise to stardom and following them throughout 2011, which proved to be a demanding year. **8.00** The Secret Life of the Sun. Kate Humble and Helen Czerski investigate the inner workings of the star and look at the influence its cycles of activity have on the Earth now and in the future. **9.00** Rise of the Continents. Iain Stewart examines clues hidden in the landscape to reveal how North and South America were formed from an ancient supercontinent called Pangaea. **10.00** Blackadder II. Edmund is challenged to a drinking contest. (R) **10.30** Mock the Week. (R) **11.00** What a Load of Buzzcocks. (R) **11.30** Film: Glastonbury. (2006) Documentary about the music festival. **1.45** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.40** Holby City. (R) **3.40** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.10** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.40** Dingo Dan. (R) **6.55** Dingo Dan. (R) **7.05** Animals. (R) **7.15** Animals. (R) **7.20** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **7.50** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.00** Sonny with a Chance. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Country House Sunday. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News: Weather. **11.25** Film: Agatha Christie's Murder with Mirrors. (1985) **1.20** Love Your Garden. (R) **2.20** A Touch of Frost. (R) **4.20** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.50** Film: Beethoven's 4th. (2001) **6.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45** ITV News: Weather. **7.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Denise Welch, Ed Byrne and Amir Khan answer questions to win turns on an arcade-style machine, hoping to scoop £20,000 for their chosen charity. Ben Shepherd hosts. **8.00** Agatha Christie's Marple. The sleuth helps an old friend find refuge at a country house, but a murderer soon targets the strange building's various inhabitants. With Jim Moir (Vic Reeves) and Fiona Shaw. **10.00** ITV News: Weather. **10.15** The Talent Show Story. The evolution of TV variety shows from New Faces to Britain's Got Talent. (R) **11.15** Drama Trails. **12.15** The Store. **2.15** Motorsport UK. **3.05** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.00** Monk. (R) **4.40** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** Blenheim Palace Trillion. **7.30** Ironman 2013. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.05** The Simpsons. (R) **1.35** Film: Stormbreaker. (2006) **3.25** Deal or No Deal. **4.25** Hollywood Me. (R) **5.30** Channel 4 News. **6.00** The Political Slot. **6.05** Film: 17 Again. (2009) A man's wish to be a teenager again is granted, but his mature outlook on life puts him at odds with others when he returns to high school. Comedy, with Matthew Perry and Zac Efron. **8.00** Terror in the Skies. Brendan Walker looks at the people and processes required to maintain aircraft and keep them operating safely, and reveals the problems that can affect planes before they take off. **9.00** The Returned. Julie finds an unlikely saviour as her dark past resurfaces, Camille comes out of hiding with a new identity and Adele finally accepts Simon is back. French supernatural thriller. **10.00** Film: Whiteout. (2009) Premiere. A US marshal in Antarctica investigates a murder, uncovering the dark secret behind a plane crash 50 years earlier. Thriller, starring Kate Beckinsale. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** Film: Hero. (2002) **2.05** Nelson's Navy: Back from the Dead. (R) **3.00** Southland. (R) **3.45** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.45** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.35** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.35** Mio Mao. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** Castle Farm. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Rattle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.35** Thundercats. (R) **11.00** Highland Emergency. (R) **11.30** The Girl with 7 Mums. (R) **12.30** Big Brother. (R) **1.30** BB BOTS: Ryan's Supersized Celebrity Sunday. **2.30** Film: Arthur and the Invisibles. (2006) **4.20** Film: Wimbledon. (2004) **6.05** Film: Sleepless in Seattle. (1993) A boy tries to find his widowed father a new wife via a radio phone-in show, a plea that moves an engaged reporter to respond. Romantic comedy, starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan. **8.00** Once Upon a Time. **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Big Brother. Daily round-up of highlights. **10.00** Film: The Business. (2005) Comedy drama, starring Danny Dyer. **12.05** Bomb Patrol. **1.05** SuperCasino. **4.00** Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three **7.00** World's Craziest Fools **7.30** Match of the Day Live **10.00** The Call Centre **11.00** Family Guy **11.45** American Dad! **BBC Four** **7.00** Sacred Music: The Story of Allegri's Miserere **7.30** BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2013 **10.00** Angelic Voices: The Choristers of Salisbury Cathedral **11.30** Fleetwood Mac – Don't Stop **ITV2** **3.00** Film: Dennis (1993) **4.50** You've Been Framed! **5.25** Film: Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones (2002) **8.15** Film: Liar Liar (1997) **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.50** Big Rich Texas **11.50** Hell's Kitchen **ITV3** **3.45** Film: The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) **5.25** Film: Christie's Poirot **8.00** An Audience with Lionel Richie **9.00** Film: Dead Calm (1989) **11.00** A Touch of Frost **ITV4** **11.15** Live British Touring Car Championship **6.00** BRDC Formula 4 Championship Highlights **7.00** World of Sport: Crazy Racing **7.10** Film: Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach (1988) **9.00** Film: Mars Attacks! (1996) **11.10** Film: Child's Play 2 (1990) **E4** **4.35** 90210 **5.30** The Mindy Project **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** New Girl **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** Film: Hot Shots! (1991) **10.15** The Inbetweeners **11.20** Don't Trust the B**** in Apartment 23 **11.50** Alan Carr: Chatty Man **Film4** **2.55** Carry On Doctor (1967) **4.45** Turner & Hooch (1989) **8.40** 27 Dresses (2008) **8.50** Cannes Film Festival 2013 Special **9.00** Die Hard 2 (1990) **11.25** Joy Ride (2001)

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

Journey to the Center of the Earth, Channel 4, 12.35pm

An explorer discovers a prehistoric monster-infested world deep beneath Earth's crust and faces a tough ordeal escaping the predatory attacks of the deadly creatures as he tries to guide his team back to safety. Sci-fi adventure based on Jules Verne's novel, starring Pat Boone and James Mason. (1959)

TUESDAY

Forces of Nature, BBC1, 11.45pm

A harassed publisher faces several unexpected setbacks on the way to his wedding – including a chance encounter with a vivacious woman, who only adds to his confusion as he begins to feel stirrings of love for her. Romantic comedy, starring Sandra Bullock and Ben Affleck. (1999)

WEDNESDAY

The Bad News Bears, Channel 4, 1.45am

A gruff former minor-league baseball player agrees to coach a team of youngsters. However, he is shocked by how woefully hopeless the would-be sports heroes really are. Gritting his teeth, he vows to do his best, with the help of an old girlfriend's talented daughter and a grim-faced biker. Comedy, starring Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal. (1976)



Starship Troopers, Friday, BBC1, 11.25pm

THURSDAY

Honeymoon for One, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman learns her fiancé is having an affair, so breaks off the engagement and heads to Ireland on honeymoon by herself. She gets off on the wrong foot with the manager of the estate where she is staying, but they eventually fall for each other. However, her fiancé later arrives looking for a second chance and planning to buy the land. Romantic drama, with Greg Wise. (2011)

FRIDAY

Music and Lyrics, ITV, 10.35pm

A washed-up pop idol is given the chance to write a song for a teenage star – but despite his musical talents, he has never written a lyric in his life. However, the discovery that the woman who looks after his plants has a way with words marks the start of a beautiful relationship. Comedy, starring Hugh Grant. (2007)

Starship Troopers, BBC1, 11.25pm

Courageous military recruits hurl themselves into a desperate war against alien insects set on destroying mankind. They blast off for the creatures' home planet in a last-ditch attempt to save the human race from annihilation. Sci-fi adventure, starring Casper Van Dien and Dina Meyer. (1997)

Pick of the Week

A resurgent Murray aims to make history

It's the last week in June, so that can mean only one thing – that's right, the start of Wimbledon fortnight.

It's also, of course, the time when tennis fans eat copious amounts of strawberries and cream while enduring unseasonably bad weather and doing lots of cheering on Henman Hill, just as the light begins to fail...

Once again, Brits everywhere will be keeping their fingers crossed that we'll be celebrating the first home-grown winner of the men's tournament since the mighty Fred Perry lifted the famous trophy for the third and final time in 1936.

Andy Murray has as good a chance as anybody of being crowned champion this year, having come so close in 2012. However, he isn't the kind of character to let the hopes of a nation weigh too heavily on his muscular shoulders.

In the past he's been described as dour and even bad-tempered; but the emotional speech he made after losing to Roger Federer in four nail-biting sets helped to improve his

image, as well as win over a new set of fans.

What Murray also has, which some previous British number ones have lacked, is the will to win at all costs. Having won a Grand Slam (the 2012 US Open) and the gold medal in the men's singles at the Olympics, he now knows what it takes to triumph in major championships – which means he's better equipped to go one step further this time around.

One man who knows a lot about carrying the expectation of an entire country is Tim Henman, who claims he didn't really mind the pressure.

"I never had a problem with it because I never really felt like there was any pressure," says Tiger Tim. "My attitude was that it had been my dream to play at Wimbledon on Centre Court. I played a lot of my best tennis and got a lot of my best results out there."

At the end of the day it's slightly selfish, but I was going on the court to play for myself, I wasn't playing for anybody else and I think that's the right approach to have. I look at the

way that Murray's played and I think he has a similar attitude because he's also played some of his best tennis there.

"There's a psychology to it and you want to make sure you're concentrating on the right things."

Henman also can't wait for this year's tournament, during which he'll be part of the BBC's commentary team once again.

"Even though I don't play any more it's still my favourite time of the year and I love getting involved with the commentary," he explains. "It's the same every time I walk in through the gates at Wimbledon – I still get that special feeling of being at the biggest and best place in tennis and that will never change."

Can Murray do it? Let's hope so. But even if he doesn't, we're still promised a two-week feast of tennis, courtesy of Tim and his colleagues Sue Barker, John McEnroe, Boris Becker, Tracy Austin, Lindsay Davenport, Virginia Wade, Pat Cash, Martina Navratilova and Anne Keothavong.



Andy Murray features in Wimbledon 2013, Monday, BBC2, 5.15pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

EastEnders

BBC1, 8pm

Lauren might be the one with the debilitating drink problem, but Abi is the one we often end up feeling sorry for – even on her birthday, the poor lass never gets to be the centre of attention. Tanya is supposed to be planning her younger daughter's party when she discovers that Lauren didn't come home following her night out with Peter. Max and Tanya fear the worst, but even when their wayward daughter eventually turns up to Abi's party of her own free will, they can't relax and concentrate on the birthday girl. For a start, Lauren has gone a very funny colour and appears to be on the brink of collapse...

The Man with the 10-Stone Testicles: A Bodyshock Special
Channel 4, 9pm

We're guessing that a few people had a little chuckle when they saw the title of this documentary. It does sound ridiculous, almost like a joke, but for Wesley Warren Jr, it was anything but funny. The Las Vegas resident accidentally knocked his testicles while turning over in bed one night, causing a sharp pain and swelling which got worse, and worse, and worse... Two years later, one of his testicles was larger than a watermelon; Wesley was suffering from a condition doctors named as scrotal elephantiasis or scrotal lymphedema, which are caused by excess fluid building up in the body's tissues. Here, we see what happened when Wesley finally went under the knife.

TUESDAY

Child Genius

Channel 4, 9pm

Could you spell triskaidekaphobia, extemporaneous and oovoviparous? In fact, do you even know what the words mean? If not, then you probably wouldn't do very well in the competition to find Britain's brightest kids, which this week reaches the spelling bee round. At nine, maths prodigy Chris is the youngest contestant left in the contest, but he isn't sure how he will do when faced with a string of long words. Eleven-year-old Ben is feeling more confident, but perhaps he shouldn't get too relaxed, especially when the opposition includes world under-12s Scrabble champion Shrinidhi.

WEDNESDAY

The Apprentice

BBC1, 9pm

Cast your mind back to the second episode of the current series of The Apprentice, when one team had to pour away a keg of flavoured beer after getting the recipe disastrously wrong. The remaining candidates are going back into the kitchen to create and brand a ready meal to tickle Alan Sugar's taste buds. The task gets off to a shaky start, as some would-be entrepreneurs don't relish the idea of slaving away over a hot stove while their team-mates get to take charge of the branding, and a food fight threatens to break out over two very different ideas.



The Apprentice, Wednesday, BBC1, 9pm

THURSDAY

Match of the Day Live

BBC1, 7.55pm

Gary Lineker presents the second semi-final of the Confederations Cup, held at the Estadio Castelão in Fortaleza, Brazil, where the winners of Group B take on the Group A runners-up. Arguably the biggest shock of the tournament took place at this stage when the competition was last staged in 2009, with Euro 2008 winners Spain losing 2-0 to the USA. It was one of few setbacks for the Spaniards in recent years, as they went on to lift the World Cup in 2010 and defend their European title last year, and it would be a major surprise if they have not reached this stage once again.

Eye Spy
Channel 4, 10pm

If we were to tell you that Stephen Fry is narrating this new hidden-camera show about what exactly makes Great Britain so great, many of you would probably agree we'd found one of its gems right there. But this isn't about the presenter; he is keen to turn the spotlight on us, the public, to see whether we can be heroes when faced with a particularly challenging situation, or is

our country, as so many people argue these days 'going to the dogs'? Many of us claim we would always do the 'right' thing in sticky situations, but when set up in stunts that throw up assorted moral dilemmas, is that really the case?

FRIDAY

The Graham Norton Show

BBC1, 10.35pm

Samuel L. Jackson has spent more than two decades confirming his status as one of the coolest men on the planet, thanks to Jurassic Park, The Long Kiss Goodnight, the Star Wars prequels and Avengers Assemble. Sandra Bullock has also become a force to be reckoned with. In 2009 alone she saw The Blind Side (for which she won an Oscar) and The Proposal both earn more than \$300million each. She will be plugging new cop comedy The Heat, while Britain's own Nick Frost promotes The World's End, his latest collaboration with Simon Pegg and director Edgar Wright. There's also music by Jake Bugg.

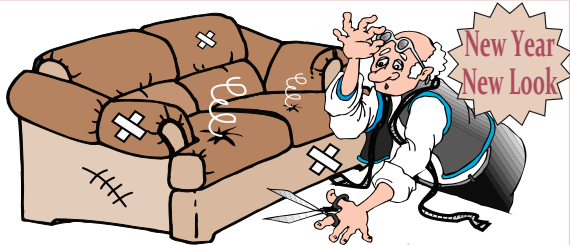
Glastonbury 2013

BBC2, 11pm

The mother of all gigs is back for the first time since 2011, and there's no shortage of amazing acts lined up to take to the assorted stages. It's not so much a case of "Get off my land!" as "Get off my cloud." Yes, the Rolling Stones have finally given in to repeated requests to play the venue, and will finally be taking to the Pyramid Stage on Saturday June 29. First up, however, are Arctic Monkeys, Dizzee Rascal, The Vaccines, Professor Green, Rita Ora, Jake Bugg and Haim.

Is Your Old Suite

Looking a little tired and worn???



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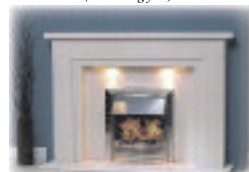
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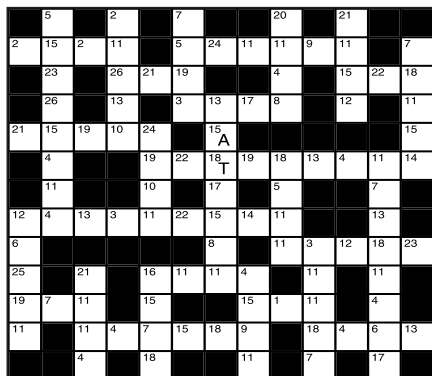
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Tracey Simkins
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Brain Gym

No.226

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C	Y	M	J	S	F	H	U	V	B	D	P	A
G	R	N	X	W	L	K	I	Z	T	E	Q	O

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

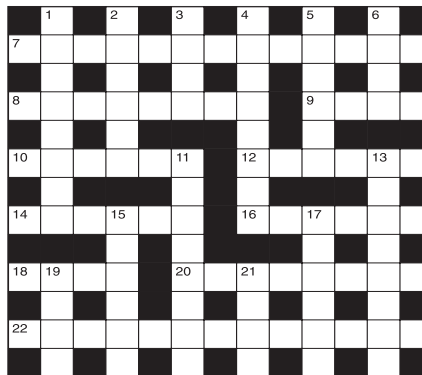
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Putting back in the ice-box? It's terrifying (5-8)
- They prevent low joints being exposed (8)
- What one has to do for tax (4)
- Remained sober, we hear (6)
- Consumer round the south associated with eggs (6)
- He originated many current devices (6)
- There is one on both sides of the capital where services are held (6)
- Strikes back to prepare for a fight (4)
- They follow on at the back to show what is coming ahead! (8)
- Made out to be illustrious (13)

Down

- Full of life, but secretly abducted (8)
- Among those who give the verdict for damage (6)
- Some of the elder cardinals hold the measure back (4)
- Men's tips badly used (8)
- Oars used by the cutter (6)
- A tough piece of wood giving a negative result, one hears (4)
- Got in and changed to acting as a benefactor (8)
- Altered the size of the shot (8)
- Moves conceitedly - members taking the strain! (6)
- Harry the underground worker has a short way for traffic! (6)
- Soft melody - two in fact (4)
- Lily shows a certain spirit (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- G. Britain and N. Ireland (6,7)
- Taciturn (8)
- Competent (4)
- Mild (6)
- Deed (6)
- Roadway (6)
- Tried (6)
- Urge forward (4)
- Way in (8)
- Religious organisation (9,4)

Down

- Concern (8)
- Severe (6)
- Lazy (4)
- Divert (8)
- Horridified (6)
- Labour (4)
- Petition (8)
- Conquer (8)
- Salad-plant (6)
- Sailor (6)
- Spoken (4)
- Jog (4)

Sudoku

		9		6		8		
	8		5					2
	6	2		3		7		9
		5	2					8
	3	7		8		2	1	
6			9		1	3		
		6		1		5	3	
2			3		9		4	
		8						

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	1	2	3	5	6	7	8	9
3	9	5	7	1	4	6	8	2
5	2	4	6	3	9	8	1	7
8	1	3	2	7	5	9	4	6
6	7	9	8	4	1	3	2	5
2	3	6	1	8	3	4	7	9
1	4	8	9	5	7	2	6	3
9	3	7	4	6	2	1	5	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Draw; 8 Expatriate; 9 Shipmate; 10 Back; 12 Cares; 14 Minute; 15 Agreed; 17 Castle; 18 Gear; 19 Spotted; 21 Flower-beds; 22 Town. Down: 2 Right-angle; 3 Weep; 4 Appals; 5 Stream; 6 Disbands; 7 Deck; 11 Cattle-show; 13 Eyebrows; 16 Desert; 17 Crowed; 18 Gift; 20 Last. QUICK - Across: 1 Scab; 8 Leadership; 9 Isotherm; 10 Even; 12 Ascent; 14 Temper; 15 Leased; 17 Oddity; 18 Style; 19 Mediocre; 21 Amalgamate; 22 Need. Down: 2 Consistent; 3 Blot; 4 Patent; 5 Permit; 6 Esteemed; 7 Spin; 11 Electorate; 13 Easterly; 16 Demean; 17 Ordeal; 18 Snap; 20 Open.



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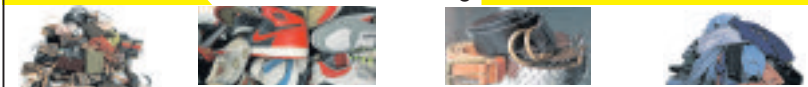
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6th - 13th July 2013

Calendar Girls by Tim Firth

Enjoy this now infamous story about the members of a Yorkshire WI Group who persuaded one another to pose for a charity calendar - with a difference!

Their story has touched hearts and minds all over the country and inspired many others to support charities in the same way.

Come and see where it all began.

Ticket Prices Mon & Tues £6.00 No concessions

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Also June 21st at 7.30pm

A special screening of the acclaimed film

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JUL 11-14	YORK	4 DAYS	£199 HB
JUL 13-19	EASTBOURNE HADDON HALL HOTEL	7 DAYS	£375 HB
JUL 15-19	WARNERS HAYLING ISLAND	5 DAYS	£279 HB
JUL 21-26	LYTHAM ST ANNES	6 DAYS	£299 HB
JUL 27-AUG 3	ISLE OF WIGHT SANDS HOTEL	8 DAYS	£375 HB
AUG 5-9	WESTON-SUPER-MARE	5 DAYS	£259 HB
AUG 10-17	WEYMOUTH	8 DAYS	£349 HB
AUG 12-16	BRIDLINGTON	5 DAYS	£249 HB
SEPT 14-18	LLANDUDNO TYNEDALE HOTEL	5 DAYS	£279 HB
SEPT 21-27	ISLE OF WIGHT TROUVILLE HOTEL	7 DAYS	£359 HB
SEPT 15-20	TENBY BELGRAVE HOTEL	6 DAYS	£295 HB

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Whole Boneless Pork Loins..... £1.99 lb = £4.07 kilo
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Whole Fresh English Spring Lamb Legs..... £3.59 lb = £7.91 kilo
Whole Fresh Boneless Pork Loins £1.99 lb = £4.39 kilo

Whole Black Angus Rib Eyes	£8.59 lb = £17.57 kilo
Whole Grass Fed Rib Eyes	£6.99 lb = £15.41 kilo
Whole Grass Fed Sirloins	£6.99 lb = £15.41 kilo
Whole Fresh rumps Beef	£4.89 lb = £10.34 kilo
5lb Fresh Spring Lamb Chops	£3.59 lb = £7.91 kilo
5lb Fresh Shin Beef	£2.89 lb = £6.37 kilo
5 x 1lb Pks Black Angus Minced Beef	£2.89 lb = £6.37 kilo
Whole Boneless Pork Legs	£1.49 lb = £3.26 kilo
5lb Packs Mild Cured Short Back Bacon	£8.49 per pack
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Property



A breakfast kitchen with central island and granite work surfaces is a good feature



A large rear garden has a vast expanse of lawn, raised beds and many maturing trees

Large detached nestled on a plot of two thirds of an acre

AN individual detached house set in splendid grounds approaching two thirds of an acre is for sale priced at £575,000.

With extensive parking and secluded gardens, the property – The Firs, Sutton Park Road, Kidderminster – has four bedrooms and two bathrooms, a Charles Yorke fitted breakfast kitchen, lounge, separate dining room, games room, two garages and extensive range of workshop/store rooms.

The house is on the Bewdley side of the town, set well back from the road behind an extensive block paved frontage with parking for several vehicles and space for a boat, caravan or motor home.

The interior has been upgraded by the present owners, most notably the new breakfast kitchen with a comprehensive range of cream units with a central island and granite work surface. It features a range of high-end

appliances including self cleaning electric double oven, induction hob and island mounted fully retractable concealed extractor, dishwasher, American style refrigerator and freezer and wine chiller.

With double doors leading out to the garden and separate utility room leading off, the kitchen creates a fabulous hub of the home.

There is also a newly refitted guest cloakroom, dining room with double doors to the garden and a games/snooker room with full height picture windows.

On the first floor the master bedroom suite includes a newly fitted range of wardrobes with a dressing area and en suite bathroom, with three more bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Outside the rear gardens are laid mainly to lawn with raised beds, paved patio terrace and well stocked shrubbery borders to all sides.

Call Allan Morris & Jones on 01562 747755 for details.



The Firs, Sutton Park Road, Kidderminster, is on sale with Allan, Morris & Jones

Bathroom with corner bath on the ground floor



Love Your Postcode is handling the sale of this house

A SPACIOUS three-bedroom semi-detached property in Oldbury is for sale priced at £174,950.

The house in Dog Kennel Lane has a reception hall, two reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, downstairs WC and bathroom, three bedrooms and bathroom, off street parking and front and rear gardens.

There is local shopping at Londonderry Road, with a wider range in Bearwood and Oldbury town centres, with local schools for all age groups.

On the ground floor the dining room, 13ft 4in by 12ft, has a feature fireplace, with the reception room measuring 12ft 2in by 12ft having a feature fireplace and French doors to the garden.

The kitchen, 9ft 11in by 8ft 10in, has a range of wall and base units with work surfaces, stainless steel sink and cooker hood with a utility room measuring 10ft 9in by 9ft 10in and with wall and base units, breakfast bar, stainless steel sink and plumbing for washing machine, with a door to a toilet.

The downstairs bathroom has a corner bath and wash hand basin, and there are three bedrooms and first floor bathroom with shower, wash hand basin and WC.

Contact Love Your Postcode on 0121 285 5005 for more details.

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MANOR ABBEY ROAD, HALESOWEN



Well presented 3 bed semi with garage
Sought after location of Lapal - No chain
Lounge & dining room, kitchen & DW. C
Off road parking, gardens to front & rear
Internal inspection essential
UPVC & DBG & GCH - EPC rating D
£209,950 Ref: D1324

MANSON DRIVE, CRADLEY HEATH



4 bed detached home with conservatory
20ft lounge leading to separate dining area
16ft breakfast kitchen & utility room
Master bedroom with en-suite shower room
Garage & driveway & in cul-de-sac location
GCH & majority upvc dg. EPC rating: C
£205,000 Ref: D1322

GOODWYN AVENUE, OLDBURY



3 bedroom semi in cul-de-sac location
No upward chain - vacant possession
Breakfast kitchen & 2 reception rooms
Blockpaved driveway & garage
Lawn rear garden with patio
UPVC DG & GCH. EPC rating: C
£179,950 Ref: D1318

APSLEY ROAD, OLDBURY



Substantially extended 3 bedroom home
No upward chain - vacant possession
19ft lounge, dining room & 15ft kitchen
Refitted bathroom with shower & bath
Driveway to front & feature garden to rear
UPVC DG & GCH. EPC rating: D
£169,950 Ref: D1317

RAMSAY ROAD, OLDBURY



Much improved 3 bed semi with parking
Refitted breakfast kitchen, lounge, utility
3 bedrooms & refitted bathroom
Enclosed rear garden with sunny aspect,
UPVC DBG, GCH
No upward chain EPC rating D
£149,950 Ref: D1315

PARSONS HILL, OLDBURY



3 bed semi with landscaped rear garden
Spacious open plan layout with 21ft lounge
17ft 7 kitchen diner overlooking garden
Two double & one single bed, & bathroom
Parking for multiple vehicles
UPVC DBG Gas central heating - EPC rating E
£144,950 Ref: D1316

HAGLEY ROAD WEST, OLDBURY



Much improved traditional styled terrace
Refitted kitchen lounge & sep. dining
2 x double bedroom & luxury bathroom
UPVC DBG & GCH (combi boiler),
Delightful enclosed rear garden with patio
Well positioned for amenities, EPC rating D
£122,000 Ref: D1319

BIRCHLEY PARK AVENUE, OLDBURY



Modern home in cul-de-sac location
15ft 9 lounge & 12ft dining kitchen
2 double bedrooms & bathroom
Upvc double glazing & gas central heating
Driveway to front giving off road parking
Garden to rear. EPC rating:
£105,995 Ref: D1314

HAGLEY ROAD WEST, OLDBURY



End terraced home with gardens
2 double bedrooms & bathroom
2 separate reception rooms
Kitchen & lean to utility room
UPVC DG & GCH
Courtyard & lawned garden. EPC rating D
£99,950 Ref: D1225

BROADWAY COURT, OLDBURY



Ground floor flat with allocated parking
Secure gated development, intercom entry
19ft open plan living accommodation
Double bedroom with built in wardrobes
Bathroom with white suite & shower
Electric heating, UPVC DBG, epc rating c
£92,950 Ref: D1308

OLIVE HILL ROAD, HALESOWEN



Available Immediately - spacious 2 bed
Well presented accommodation
Open plan 15'4 kitchen/diner
Landscaped rear garden & off road parking
Unfurnished - No DSS - No pets or smokers.
EPC Rating D
£625PCM Ref: DL133

OLD CROWN CLOSE, BARTLEY GREEN



Two double bedrooms
Lounge & kitchen/diner,
Garage, parking & gardens to front & rear
GCH & majority double glazed
Unfurnished - no dss - no pets or smokers
EPC rating: D
£550PCM Ref: DL134

Residential Sales & Lettings

Property

A select Bewdley development for modern property



Number 2 Gerlensta Court, Bewdley, is on sale via agent Allan Morris & Jones for offers based around £389,950

AN impressive detached family house enjoying a sought after location off Grey Green Lane in Bewdley is for sale priced at £389,950.

The property is part of a select development of four houses built around six years ago by Newfield Homes and comes with an enclosed porch entrance, reception hall and cloakroom, lounge and dining room, fitted breakfast kitchen, four double bedrooms, en suite bathroom and house bathroom.

There is also double garage and gardens to four sides, gas central heating and double glazing.

On the ground floor the lounge is to the rear with feature fireplace and patio doors to the garden, with a separate dining room and breakfast kitchen with integrated appliances, eye level double oven and grill, four ring gas hob with stainless steel extractor over, integrated full height fridge freezer and dishwasher, wall, base and drawer units, one

and a half sink with drainer and mixer tap and central breakfast area.

On the first floor are four double bedrooms, the principal with white en suite of pedestal wash hand basin, WC, bidet, panelled bath and corner shower cubicle.

Shower

The white house bathroom has a panelled bath, pedestal wash hand basin, WC and corner shower cubicle.

The double garage has a utility area with stainless steel sink drainer and mixer tap.

Outside the front gardens are low maintenance with double parking in front of the garage, gravelled area and shrubbery, with the rear garden laid mainly to lawn with shrubs and bushes and paved patio area.

Call Allan Morris & Jones on 01299 400555 for more details.



Contact estate agent Bartrams for more details about this semi-detached in Monmouth Drive, West Bromwich

Gardens to front and rear at three-bedroom semi

A THREE-BEDROOM semi-detached property in Monmouth Drive, West Bromwich, is for sale priced at £124,950.

Well located for local schools and amenities, the property has a hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, front and rear gardens, double glazing and central heating.

On the ground floor the lounge, 18ft 10in by 9ft 10in, has a gas fire with brick and tile surround while the kitchen - 12ft 7in by 7ft 3in - has wall and base units, one and a half

sink drainer, gas hob, fan-assisted oven and plumbing for washing machine and the dining room is 11ft 1in by 9ft 3in.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with walk-in shower, wash hand basin and WC.

Outside the frontage is gravelled with a path to the front door, with to the rear a lawn garden, paved patio area, shed and outhouse.

Call Bartrams on 0121 601 9370 for more details.

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HALESOWEN, Bromsgrove Road

Located in the desirable area of Romsley. This unfurnished semi detached house features gas central heating, modern and spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, loft space, front & rear gardens, garage, fantastic views, inspection strongly recommended. EPC: E

£875 PCM



HALESOWEN, Sanderson Place

Luxury living in Hayley Green. A superb ground floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. Available 26/07/13. EPC: B

£650 PCM



HALESOWEN, Wroxley House

Luxury living in Hayley Green. This superb luxury 1st floor apartment offers spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner with balcony, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B

£625 PCM



HALESOWEN, Brett Young Close

An impressive 1st floor apartment which comes part furnished, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre comprising 2 double bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, spacious lounge with leather sofa, contemporary kitchen, house bathroom with shower, allocated parking. Well worth a viewing. Available now. EPC: B

£600 PCM



HALESOWEN, Hoosen Close

A delightful modern refurbished mid terraced house located within a desirable quiet cul de sac. Featuring a lovely refitted kitchen with electric oven/hob, fridge freezer and highest waterlevel. Gas central heating, large lounge with patio doors offering views across a mature herbaceous garden benefiting from a sunny aspect, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, garage, parking space. EPC: E

£595 PCM



HALESOWEN, Fatherless Barn Crescent

Excellent value for money. An exceptionally spacious home in a very popular location close to local shops and bus routes to Merry Hill, Halesowen and Stourbridge. Close to Colley Lane Primary School, featuring 3 double bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, modern fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, lovely low maintenance rear garden. EPC: D

£575 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, Wycherley Way

Modern well presented unfurnished 2 double bedroom semi detached house. Ideally situated for Old Hill Shops, local train station and Cradley Heath Town Centre, this property features gas central heating, double glazing, spacious living room, downstairs w.c., 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage. Viewing highly recommended. Available the end of July. EPC: B

£575 PCM



HALESOWEN, Mount Street

Centrally located to Halesowen. This wonderfully presented end terraced house features 2 good sized reception rooms, open plan modern kitchen, 2 big double bedrooms, house bathroom with shower, medium sized rear garden and on road parking. EPC: E

£550 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, Clent View

A fantastic opportunity to rent a brand new property on a select development. Clent View features homes of 2,3 & 4 bedrooms. Finished to an exceptional standard. These homes features spacious lounge with patio doors leading to a low maintenance garden. With homes having various layouts and some featuring double walk in showers, en-suites or family bathrooms, there is definitely a plot suitable for all. These won't be around for long. EPC: B

From £535-£625 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, Aqua Court

This new build 2nd floor apartment, a stones throw away from Blackheath town centre comprises 1 double bedroom, open plan lounge/kitchen with fridge freezer and washer/dryer, house bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, Juliet balcony, allocated parking space, viewing highly recommended. EPC: B

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, Beaumont Road

A superb fully re-furnished traditional semi-detached house. Within easy reach of Blackheath and a short drive from Halesowen and the M5. This home features 2 large reception rooms, modern fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom with shower, 2 double bedrooms, gas central heating, double glazing. A must see property! EPC: E

£525 PCM



NETHERTON, Wellfield Gardens

A well presented 2 bedroom semi-detached family home situated in a quiet cul-de-sac position. Lounge, kitchen/dining room and re-fitted bathroom, gas central heating, parking at side of house for several cars. Secluded rear garden. Viewing highly recommended. EPC: D

£500 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, Clifton Street

Within walking distance to Old Hill shops and local train station. A well presented unfurnished modern mid terrace house benefiting from gas central heating, lovely living room, fitted dining kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, 2 allocated parking spaces. EPC: C

£495 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, Timbertree Crescent

Located within easy reach of Timbertree School. This semi detached house has been fully refurbished to a high standard and features 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen diner, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, front and rear gardens, rear garden having outbuildings. On road parking. Available now. EPC: C

£495 PCM



STOURBRIDGE, Bagley Street

Deceptively large and within walking distance to Stourbridge town centre. This lovely semi-detached house features a great lounge, large dining kitchen with gas oven and hob, 2 double bedrooms, house bathroom with shower, nice sized rear garden, on road parking, double glazing, gas central heating. Available now. EPC: D

£485 PCM



HALESOWEN, Highfield Road

Deceptively large semi-detached house, close to local shops and buses to Halesowen, Stourbridge and Cradley Heath featuring 2 good sized lounges, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom with shower, 2 double bedrooms, nice size rear garden, on road parking. Available now. EPC: G

£475 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, Clent Hill Drive

Located in a very quiet cul-de-sac. This starter home sized semi-detached house, comprises 2 good sized bedrooms, fitted kitchen, cosy living room, house bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, low maintenance landscaped rear garden, parking space to front, unfurnished. EPC: D

£475 PCM



WOLVERHAMPTON, Regency Mews

• HALF PRICE APPLICATION FEES • Newly built apartment in a Regency style development. Comprising spacious living room with open plan contemporary kitchen with integrated appliances, stylish bathroom with shower and chrome fittings, 1 double bedroom with fitted wardrobe, study room. Allocated parking. Superbly presented with tasteful contemporary furnishings available if required. Well worth viewing... Not one to be missed! EPC: D

£470 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, Elbow Street

Situated in a quiet location, within walking distance to Old Hill town and local train station this unfurnished ground floor flat comprises electric storage heating, large living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, communal gardens, allocated parking. EPC: C

£450 PCM



HALESOWEN, Clent House

Stunning views from this top floor apartment. Located within walking distance to Halesowen, the apartment features 2 double bedrooms, a light and airy lounge, house bathroom with shower, fitted kitchen with a small fridge, warm air heating, double glazing. Available now. EPC: D

£450 PCM



HALESOWEN, Fairfield Road

Ideally located in central Halesowen for shops, buses to Merry Hill and Birmingham. This unfurnished first floor flat features 1 bedroom, large lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower. An opportunity not to be missed. EPC: D

£395 PCM



WEBSITE:
www.hickshadley.com



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This modern detached house situated in a cul-de-sac location in a popular residential area has the following accommodation. Halesowen

Windsor Road, Halesowen



EPC E

£160,000

A three bedroom house benefitting from extended lounge, separate dining room, conservatory, gardens and parking. Halesowen.

Olive Lane, Halesowen



EPC E

£90,000

A traditional mid terraced house with accommodation comprising lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and rear garden. Halesowen

Public Notice



EPC D

£146,950

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We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £141,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Slater Close, Cradley Heath



EPC C

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Sheepfold Close, Rowley Regis



EPC D

Offers Over £80,000

This modern mid terraced house comprising lounge, two bedrooms, parking space and rear garden. Halesowen

Victoria Road, Halesowen



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Offers Over £60,000

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Ruiton Street, Dudley



EPC D

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Abbotsford Drive, Dudley



Awaiting
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Offers Over £210,000

Detached dormer bungalow briefly comprising through lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen/diner, study/bedroom three, garage and driveway.

Ivanhoe Street, Dudley



EPC D

£65,000

Mid terrace three bedroom property briefly comprising entrance lobby, lounge, dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom and rear garden.

Paganel Drive, Dudley



Awaiting
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Offers Over £180,000

Semi detached three bedroom property briefly comprising lounge, dining room, downstairs WC, kitchen, rear gardens and garage.

Richmond Road, Sedgley



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Offers Over £150,000

Semi detached three bedroom property briefly comprising lounge/diner, kitchen, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and driveway.

William Barrows Way, Tipton



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Offers Over £140,000

Semi detached four bedroom three storey property ground floor having downstairs WC, utility area and bedroom four/study.

Denbigh Close, Dudley



EPC D

Offers Over £120,000

Semi detached three bedroom property comprising lounge, dining area, kitchen, family bathroom and front and rear gardens.

Colsyll Gardens, Dudley



Awaiting
EPC

Offers Over £120,000

Semi detached three bedroom property comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, downstairs WC, family bathroom, rear garden and driveway.

Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

Triumph gives a lot of fun for the money

THERE are many good reasons for riding motorcycles, but for many of us the thrill, the excitement, the fun factor are some of the most important.

But sports bikes of the four-pot, one litre class are by no means the only option: even losing a cylinder doesn't mean short measure in what really counts.

Triumph's latest Street Triple is very quick, lighter and compared to many more nimble option with performance that belies its 675cc capacity.

The added bonus is it's now so well-balanced and easy to ride a lot of riders like me might find it flattering of their abilities.

The £7,699 Street Triple is a sort of hybrid between two successful Triumph models. It has many of the styling cues of its big brother, the 1,050cc Speed Triple - complete with twin 'bug-eye' headlights - while the three cylinder, 675cc engine is shared with the sporting Daytona.

It was a great piece of genetic engineering: the hard-edged looks of what was arguably the originator of the 'street fighter' class of bikes mated with the power plant of a proven race-winner.

In the Street Triple, though, the 105bhp and 68Nm of torque are delivered in a manner which makes for a quick but very tractable road machine - some 80 per cent of the pulling power is available at a very low 3,500rpm for real-world performance.

It is what it says on the box: a street machine not a pretend MotoGP bike.

It's red-lined at over 12,000rpm, and independent sources put the top speed at around 140mph.

Calipers

At first sight it's hard to distinguish the Street Triple from its bigger sibling: perhaps the most obvious difference being the short, low level exhaust. This doesn't only help to lower the centre of gravity it also produces a very satisfying range of sounds from burble to growl to howl as you feed in the power.

The Street Triple's short wheelbase and compact size are immediately apparent too, but what isn't so obvious is the all-new, narrower and lighter weight frame, including an advanced and particularly rigid rear subframe.

The bike is as light as it looks, too - just 180kg. If you're bored by the engineering, you won't be by the result. This is what makes the Triumph such a cracking bike to ride - light, agile, sure-

footed through the twisty bits. There's no question of tipping the Street Triple into a corner, you just think it through, like the best sports machines. It's so good it flatters most rider's (certainly mine) abilities and inspires confidence.

The seating position is relatively low but upright which to me means comfort. On a naked (unfaired) bike that naturally means some wind blast at motorway speeds. Some might choose an optional fly screen to reduce that: for others, though, the wind makes you feel almost weightless, reducing strain on your arms on longer trips.

The multi-function instrument display includes a large digital speedo which is easily readable in a wide range of lighting conditions.

The readout includes a gear position indicator, while the second 'clock' is an analogue tachometer. The 308mm twin front discs with dual calipers at the front (and 220mm at the rear) provide reassuring stopping power.

The Street Triple may lose out on outright performance to its bigger brother which will always be a consideration for some riders. But I'm not sure how much that means in the real world, where the 675cc machine's supersport power plant combined with its lighter weight and superb agility (and its price tag) has undoubted appeal.



The Triumph Street Triple is very quick and is now so well-balanced



The Triumph Street Triple is good looking and a lot of fun to ride

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Motoring



The new-look Auris has retained all that is good from Toyota in safety and reliability

Auris stays part of the Toyota motoring family

Model benefits from redesign

IF THE car you are looking for needs to be dependable, secure, safe, and perhaps not too exciting the market place is quite wide and varied, but one manufacturer that always comes out in the top choice factor is Toyota, one of the world's largest car makers.

Toyota have recently introduced the next generation of the Auris, this benefits from an all-new exterior design.

I like the factor that Toyota has followed other manufacturers of giving their frontal design a corporate look; they call it the Toyota family face.

I just like it when you instantly know who has manufactured a car, has its own heritage, its own DNA, and I really do like this feature that the Auris knows who has manufactured it.

The overall length has been extended just slightly but the wheelbase remains the same, a slight extension of length will relate to a little more interior space although that having been said the new model has been reduced in height by 55mm and this sometimes can be a worry if the interior headroom has been reduced, but I am glad to say this is not the case.

The design people at Toyota have been working hard on the Auris, they worked hard on losing weight, the chassis design, the packaging and the engine configurations.

Expenditure

All this gives a vehicle that has a better level of equipment and is now cheaper to run than ever before.

The aerodynamics have made quite impressive savings in respect of running costs and in addition engine tweaks and adjustments have improved fuel consumptions and reduced CO2 emissions considerably, thus bringing down running and ownership costs.

The Auris is available with multi-choices in respect of the power trains; you can go for the full hybrid or a choice of two petrols or one diesel.

Hybrid has progressed quite considerably from being a niche market to a very important factor. The jury is still out in respect of hybrids, I believe the technological advancement in conventional engines has seen such strides as the expenditure and long term ownership worries of a hybrid are not sufficient for me to actually consider.

The 2 petrols are a 1.3-litre producing 98 bhp, and a 1.6-litre producing 130bhp, this was the engine that was fitted in to my particular test car, with a 6-speed gearbox which it is pleasing to report that you can use all of the 6 gears as opposed to some vehicles that I have driven whereby 5th and 6th are pure motorway.

It is possible for your Auris to be supplied with a 1.4-litre diesel producing 89 bhp, where the diesel scores heavily in the fuel consumption figures.

Toyota suggest a combined figure of 74 mpg could be achievable but let's reduce that considerably to

Road test by Bob Hickman

real world figures and you should be able to achieve 50 mpg and in all probability 45 from the smaller 1.3-litre petrol. My 1.6-litre rewarded me with 42 mpg whilst it was in my company. Toyota have taken the step of changing the way they describe their vehicles and now you can buy an Active, Icon, Sport or an Excel.

The standard features on all versions include 7 air bags, air conditioning, follow me home headlights, they also benefit from hill start assist, a vehicle stability programme system and LED daytime running headlamps.

All manufacturers have extras list and the optional Toyota Touch and Go multimedia system with a full map navigation system was fitted in to my vehicle, and for once it was one of the most user friendly satellite navigation and Bluetooth methods I have used.

Automatic

Even the entry level Active benefits from automatic air-conditioning and electric windows and mirrors.

The Auris is a pleasant vehicle to be ensconced in for any length of time, the all important head and shoulder room box for driver and front passenger was ticked without any problems and the rear seats could accommodate 2 adults certainly, 3 children quite easily, 3 adults with a squish.

The boot was more than adequate for the luggage for 4 people.

I did like on my derivative the parking assist system, a rear view camera and front and rear parking sensors.

Servicing

The on road price is £17,495 on to that you needed to add £450 for metallic paint and on my vehicle the touch and go navigation system increased the price by £650.

All Toyotas have a 5-year 100,000 miles Pan European Mechanical Warranty and benefit from a 3-year paint work warranty, anti corrosion is covered for 12 years.

In addition Toyota has included a one-year full AA cover, and servicing should be done annually or at 10,000 miles.



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The low boot lip helps when loading luggage

Motoring

Look inside the new Adam and you will find interior that's to die for



Vauxhall's new Adam supermini has beaten the big boys to land the best car interior design award

Vauxhall's fashionable new Adam supermini has scooped the best interior design in a production car award at the Automotive Interiors EXPO 2013.

Beating competitors such as the Alfa 4C, Jaguar F-Type, Renault Clio and

the new Range Rover, Vauxhall's stylish urban newcomer was selected by a jury of respected motoring journalists from around the world.

The award is part of a trade show in Stuttgart, Germany, for concepts, materials, surfaces, fabrics and components in vehicle interior equipment.

Elizabeth Wetzel, Interior Design

Director, says: "The individualisation of the interior is one of the Adam's many outstanding traits.

"Our small lifestyle car offers almost 82,000 combinations for interior styling.

"The EXPO award is a wonderful tribute to the whole Opel/Vauxhall design team."

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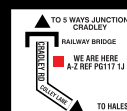
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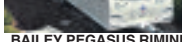
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G-PLAN 3 seater, 2 seater, 1 recliner, beige, 3 years old, immaculate condition, cost £3,000 accept £450. 01902 654020.

ITALIAN COFFEE TABLE 4ft 4in x 2ft matching side tables all in black marble. Offers around £350 07708 158212.

THREE-PIECE SUITE, brown upholstery, hardly used, cost £1,500 now, offers around £450. 0773 569112.

TWO FEMALE RABBITS, heavy duty hutch and run, £40. Buyer to collect. 01384 828236.

in your garden

Top Soil, Building Sand, Paving/Concrete Sand, Decorative Gravels
Delivered Bagged or Loose
01902 893226

RYOBI 30CC expand-it system, rotavator, bush cutter, strimmer, hedge cutter and chain saw, £165. 01902 850790. Brewood.

items for sale

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

CORRUGATED roofing sheets. Also tile effect/box profile curved and 2 purfins. Horsey Steels 01547 530419

DOUBLE MATTRESS, pocket sprung, quilted, 4ft 6in, as new, 1/3 of the price, £100. Fordhouses. 01902 785374.

items wanted

ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce CASH PAID TODAY
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
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Moorcroft • Old coins • Watches
Jewellery • Old toys • Clocks
Paintings • All silver items
Pre '47 silver coins All war medals etc
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07971 783206

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Dinky, Corco, Spot On.
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K.JELECTRICAL, NAPIT reg. All areas of electrical work carried out. Certified and guaranteed. Tel 07875 930694 or 01902 280289.

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Driveways & Pathways
Imprinted Concrete
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GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden, 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

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A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Tel: 07852 172641.

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ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel 01902 60200 / 07841 634027. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

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A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local Careful Firm
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CALL DEAN! Business/Domestic. Deliveries/Relocation/full house. 1 item. 07429 453209/01902 830870

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN. Removals, clearances, items large or small. Call: 01902 741546, 07917 979360 or 01384 468955.

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All areas covered
Immediate delivery
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Fast and Reliable service
Call: 01384 240956
07920 885774

roofing

MG ROOFING
Flat roofs, tiling,
roof repairs, fascias
and gutters.
01902 238989 or
07580 465449

PREMIER ROOFING New Roofs, Repairs, Facias & Gutters. Call: 01384 358800 or 07875 387445.
SEMI RETIRED ROOFER All things roofing, flat roofs/fascias and guttering, 38 yrs experience. Please call Keith: 07546 158165

4 Pets & Animals
equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

BEACON FARM RIDING CLUB
Open show Sunday June 16th 10am start showing & jumping. 01922 637986 or 01922 627324.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

ADORABLE Seal Point Rag Doll Kittens, companion breed. No breeders. 01902 893671 or 07436 002565.

BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES, various colours, long coated, great temperament, lovely markings. Telephone 07721 768462.

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP ALBERT?
He is a six month old little cross breed puppy who was found as stray with horrific head and neck injuries.

At the moment he is in a caring foster home but his vets bills are rapidly mounting and our funds are at an all time low. Can you please help Albert to get better with a small donation.
01588 676106

Animal Samaritans Midland Trust, The Round House, Horsley Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 8HT.

CHIHUAHUA CROSS JACK pups, £300 ono. 07787 587858.

FOREST DOG RESCUE
Rehoming - Priest - Young Staffie, male. Barney - English Bull Terrier X, 8mths. Hector - Neopolitan/Bull Mastiff, 15mths, male. Poppy - X Bred, 6mths. Bonnie & Sharlie - JRTs, 10 & 8yrs. George - Lurcher, male, 18mths. Freddie - Staffie X, 2yrs, male. Lulu - Staffie, female, 18mths. Tago - young Staffie, male. Percy - Mastiff X, 2yrs. Pearl - young Blue Staffie, female. Rocky - X Bred, 5yrs, male.

01299 269181 or 07564 262371 www.forest-dog-rescue.org.uk

FREE TO good home Jack Russell 3yo, 9 years old, no small children. 07813 405922. After 5pm.

HONEY
Adorable, small Yorkie girl, 5 years old, very affectionate.

Honey is looking for a loving, responsible home through no fault of her own. Sorry, no small children or all day workers. A secure garden is essential.

Call 01384 252158.

JACK RUSSELL X Westie puppies, 8 weeks old. Parents can be seen. 01902 842855, 07500 543922.

KOI FOR SALE from 3 to 6 inch, English bred, Japanese parents, many varieties, Shiro Utsuri, Chagoi, Shusui and many more, Wolverhampton from £5. 07974 042636.

MINIATURE JACK RUSSELL pups, teacup parents on view. £150. 01902 685399, 07975 653019.

RABBIT BREEDERS complete set up, stock pens, hutches, travelling boxes, new dishes, bottles, will separate, £350. 07961 630315.

ST BERNARD Puppies, ready now, pedigree, boys/girls, £700 each near Bridgnorth. 07581 808520.

TWO BLACK KITTENS, one male, one female, £20. Dudley 07847 382237.

TWO PEDIGREE black cocker spaniel pups, vet checked, 8 weeks old, £400 each ono. 07984 833365.

5 Business & Farming
business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

farm machinery

Express & Star

THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

business directory

commercial premises

OFFICE TO LET
First floor front office. Premier position, main Penn Rd, into Wolverhampton. Private car park. Suit many trades/profession. 07792 210806

UNITS TO LET
1300 Sq Ft. Rowley Regis (New Electric) 4500sq ft. Brierley Hill Town Good Rates. Contact anytime and please leave message 01746 710179.

THREE BED SEMI Hilton Road, Lanesfield. Newly refurbished, CH, Garden, 1st road parking. Great location. 07834 909402.

TWO BED BUNGALOW, brand new, CH, excellent condition, Dunstable area, DSS considered, deposit required. 01902 822919.

MANOR FARM, SWINDON
Residential development plot for sale. Planning permission for three 2 bedroom apartments. One 3 bedroom and three 2 bedroomed dwellings. Particulars and viewings available. www.nextphasedevelopment.co.uk
Offers in excess of £550,000. 01543 478787.

THREE BED SEMI, good area of Great Barr. All facilities. Further details, evenings 07815 295812.

PROPERTY WANTED any condition. Long term let. Guaranteed above market rent paid for right property. Call Sarah on 0121 526 6410

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employment wanted

ACTIVE PENSIONER seeks part time work, gardening, house maintenance, factory experience, anything considered. 01902 678488.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED
Gardening, trees, fencing etc, with experience. 01902 628908

MATURE FEMALE requires office work, accounts/admin, full or part time. 07895 765095.

8 Motoring
cars over £1500

AUDI A4 1.9TDI, W reg, tax and MoT, service history, very good condition, two owners, £1,450 ono. Telephone 07530 770253.

RESIDENTIAL PARK HOME
Two years old, located in Harlech, North Wales, large lounge with sea views, dining room, fully fitted kitchen, two double bedrooms, master bedroom with en suite bathroom, study, large drive with private garden.
Realistically priced to sell at £145,000.
01766 780178.

property exchanges

TWO BED HOUSE LOUGHBOROUGH
cul de sac, near town centre, private back garden, backs on to canal, looking for similar, with garden, anywhere in Black Country.
07804 346528.

BMW 325 CI M SPORT CONVERTIBLE
05, 73k, red, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, central locking, cruise control, pas, tax, alloys, stereo, CD, leather interior, petrol, electronic, loads more photos. A real looker!
£6,999.
07866 515142.

★ BMW Z3 2.8 1998, 37k, hard and soft top, full BMW fsh, silver, 6w, 6m, electric leather seats, 1 previous owner, garaged from new. £5,995 ono. 07971 422617.

CITROEN CX 1.4 DESIRE
07 reg, 57,000 miles, fsh, 5 door, grey, alloys, 12 months MoT, CD player, excellent condition inside and out.
Telephone 07534 409404.

FORD FIESTA 04, 90,000 miles, 8 months MoT, very good condition. £1,595 ono. 07954 437625.

FORD MONDEO TDCI 130, 6 speed, 200k, silver, fsh, long MoT and tax, 1 previous owner, immaculate. £1,950 ono. 07971 284856.

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KIA RIO 1.3LX, 03 plate, 11 months MoT, new clutch and parts, FSH, £1,175 ono. 01902 498889 or 07818 218697.

MAZDA MX5 1.8, 56 plate, MoT Apr 2014, tax Jun, 39,000 miles, excellent condition, reluctant sale, £5,395 ono. 01902 411635.

MAZDA RX8, 04, Red, 61k, 1st to see will buy, FSH, leather interior, alloys, 4 new tyres, tax MoT, beautiful car, £2,750 ono. 07714 203280.

MERCEDES C180 Avant Gardo, 05 reg, 12 months MoT, 38,000 miles, excellent condition, must be seen, £5,500. Call 01743 761470.

MERCEDES CLK 220CDI, Avant Gardo, Coupe, leather, black, diesel, reg 22/12/06, MoT June 2014, £7,350 ono. 07804 240012.

MINI COOPER 1.6, 1.6, 2008, black, half leather, sat nav, panoramic glass sunroof, 33K, MoT, 12 months tax, fsh, excellent condition, £6,750. 07970 591540.

MITSUBISHI SPACESTAR 1.9 DID, 5 door, diesel, fsh, 60,000 miles, just serviced, r/l, e/w, s/r, a/c, a/w, MoT June 2014, tax February 2014.

07785 906058 (Kiddminster).

NISSAN MICRA 1.4SE, 55 reg 26K miles, Grey, MoT, 5 door, 6, Disk CD, Elec Win, Air Con, C/Locking, £3,895 ono. 07927 771868.

NISSAN NOTE, 1.6, 07 Reg, 46K, silver, fsh, MoT, 12 months tax, excellent condition, £4,000 ono. Telephone 0121 5569799.

PERODUA MYVI 1300, 2007, genuine 17,000 miles, bronze, abs, long MoT, remote locking, pas, electric windows and mirrors, air con, radio/CD, adjustable steering.

£2,050 ono. 01384 827208.

PEUGEOT 206 GLX HDI, 51, 2.0, Diesel, 5-dr, Hatch, Silver, 12 mths MoT, 80,700 miles, £1,395, o.n.o. 01902 724893 or 07807 587285.

PEUGEOT 207

Verve 2009, 25000 miles, Red, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, MoT, central locking, one owner, pas, alloys, CD, petrol, Bluetooth and USB connection, excellent condition

£5,250 ono. 07920 067381.

PEUGEOT 207 1.8, 09 reg, 5 door, tax, MoT, silver, 14,000 miles, lady owner, very good condition, fsh, £5,375 ono. 07886 781724.

PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDI, diesel, tax/MoT till August, 58k miles, 53 plate, Silver, £2,000. 07772 163621.

RANGE ROVER SPORT 2006, 2.7 TDV6, red, 109,000 miles, taxed and tested, HSE model, sat nav, heated seats, fsh, towbar fitted, excellent condition, £14,900 ono. 07596 439450.

RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI, 80, diesel, Dynamique, 2005, FSH, 9 months MoT, 65k, dark red, nice condition, £2,300 ono. 07724 749929.

RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 PETROL, 2008, wheelchair accessible, 42K miles, 12 months MoT, £3,995. 07874 311116.

RENAULT LAGUNA

2006, 1.9dci 130 Extreme 56 plate, 128,000 miles, 5 door hatch, FSH, red, ABS, EW, air bag, EM, AC, fsh, alarm, cd/radio, 12 months MoT, central locking, pas, diesel, tax end June, alloys, stereo, CD, spots, spoiler, electric windows/windows, clean and drives well, gen reason for sale, £1,850. 07795 366367.

RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 54, 80,000 miles, Green, MoT, pas, tax, alloys, petrol, call for more info £1,850 ono. 07505 793841.

ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT 1982

Ice green, beige leather, much recent restoration, tax and new MoT, agreed insurance evaluation £8,500, 10% sale price to Yoxall Charities. Offers £7,000. 01543 472247. peterpbstone@btinternet.com

SUZUKI JIMNY SZ4 4WD, 12,600 miles, black/grey, air con, alloys, c/l, e/w, fsh, manufactures 19 months warranty, excellent condition. £9,300. 01384 356661.

TOYOTA AVENTIS 1.8 T3, 03 reg, full MoT, 6 months tax, 50,900 miles, sat nav, c/l, alloys, good condition, £2,600 ono. 07831 0201.

TOYOTA COROLLA T2 1.4, 04 plate, 3 door, tax and MoT, sunroof, excellent condition, £1,695 ono. 01902 750445.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 1.2, 2009, blk, 2-dr, 11 mths MoT, 10,000 miles, 2 owners, Tinted windows, 2 owners, £1,200. 07814 461324.

VOLVO S60 2.0 petrol, 2005, tax, new MoT, low mileage, FSH, hpi clear, £3,695 ono. 07814 461324.

VOLVO V50 SPORT ESTATE 05 plate, fsh, manual, petrol, 1.8 silver alloy wheels, tax Oct 13, MoT Dec 13, 86k, full Volvo safety features, £3,200 ono. 07811 478459.

VW BORA, 2004, 77,000 miles, silver, MoT, tax, petrol, two owners, all original condition, £2,800 ono. 0121 5529198.

VW GOLF SE FSI, 1600, 04 reg, 46,500 genuine miles, FSH, MoT, tax, EW, EM, alloy, excellent condition, £3,700 ono. 07885 575330.

VW PASSAT 02 Estate, 1.9 TDI, High line, 05 reg, 65K FSH, long MoT, 12 months tax, £3,995 ono. 044 995 07850 330251.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED

that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

BMW 318 auto, V reg, fsh, MoT August 2014, tax August 2013, 49k miles, petrol, metallic blue, new brakes, £995, 07719 907747.

CHRYSLER NEON, 2001, automatic, GLX, top model, tax, MoT, £450, 07592 366233.

CHRYSLER NEON, 2001, automatic, GLX, top model, tax, MoT, £375, 07592 366233.

CITROEN XSARA PICASSO 1.6LX, 2000, MoT October, tax August, 86k, good condition, £750. 07721 061585.

CITROEN XSARA X reg, MoT until November, spares or repairs, £275 ono. 07769 157284.

DAEWOO MATIZ, W reg, full MoT, tax August, pas, alloys, e/w, good condition, 65,000 miles, £550. Telephone 01384 251328.

DAIHATSU SPORTRAK 4X4 1995, 1 previous owner, low mileage, MP3/stereo, hard-wired TomTom, alloy wheels, immobiliser, 5 months tax and MoT. Must be seen. £850. Telephone 07885 104218.

FORD EXPLOER XLT 2000, W reg, 77,000 miles, very good condition, fully loaded, £950. 07973 873296.

FORD FIESTA 1.25 Zetec, 1986, taxed and MoT'd, 54 hat, MoT'd, player, alloys, £450 ono. Albrighton 01902 219757.

FORD FIESTA GHIA, 1997, MoT, 67,800 miles, silver, electric windows, air con, MoT, pas, tax till September, alloys, CD, £1,299. 07896 346826.

FORD FOCUS 1.6, V reg, EW, PAS, CL, green, 54,000 miles, £1,400 ono. 07999 241685 or 0121 5540309.

FORD KA 2001, colour coded, full MoT, taxed five months, very good condition, £750. 01902 491573.

FORD KA, 2002 plate, 43,000 miles. Taxed and MoT'd. Dark red colour. Very good condition, £1,200, o.n.o. Call 01902 893492.

FORD MAVERICK 4x4, V6, 16p, gsp, Y reg, MoT July, no tax, high spec, £1,200. 07885 780773.

FORD MONDEO 2.0 Ghia, W reg, 72,000 miles, 6 months tax and MoT, £550 ono. 07779 500658.

FORD MONDEO diesel estate, 56 plate, good condition, tax/MoT, silver, Bargain, £1,400. 07539 493743.

FORD STREET KA

2003, 36,336 miles, metallic blue, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, alarm, long MoT, metallic paint, central locking, pas, alloys, CD, spots, leather interior, petrol, heated seats. £1,495. 01902 761796.

FORD STREET KA Convertible, 03 reg, blue, 70K, MoT, lovely condition, £1,250. 01384 440258 / 07882 413544.

HYUNDAI GETZ 1.1, 04 plate, blue, taxed, MoT, fsh, 49,000 miles, one owner, £1,300 o.n.o. 01902 745605.

KIA PRIMA P, reg, 1200cc, green, 10 months MoT, no tax, brilliant condition in/out £299, 01902 566032.

MITSUBISHI PAJERO 2.8, L reg, LWB, replacement ABS and brake cylinder, 12 months MoT, £1,350 ono. 07899 803989.

PEUGEOT 106 1.1, 02 reg, 68,000 miles, tax and MoT, Sept 2013, good runner, £900 ono. 07583 792575.

RENAULT LAGUNA

2006, 1.9dci 130 Extreme 56 plate, 128,000 miles, 5 door hatch, FSH, red, ABS, EW, air bag, EM, AC, fsh, alarm, cd/radio, 12 months MoT, central locking, pas, diesel, tax end June, alloys, stereo, CD, spots, spoiler, electric windows/windows, clean and drives well, gen reason for sale, £1,850. 07795 366367.

RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 54, 80,000 miles, Green, MoT, pas, tax, alloys, petrol, call for more info £1,850 ono. 07505 793841.

ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT 1982

Ice green, beige leather, much recent restoration, tax and new MoT, agreed insurance evaluation £8,500, 10% sale price to Yoxall Charities. Offers £7,000. 01543 472247. peterpbstone@btinternet.com

SUZUKI JIMNY SZ4 4WD, 12,600 miles, black/grey, air con, alloys, c/l, e/w, fsh, manufactures 19 months warranty, excellent condition. £9,300. 01384 356661.

HONDA CRV ES

1998, 95,000 miles, leather mist (silver), abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, metallic paint, central locking, one owner, pas, sunroof, tax, alloys, stereo, CD, petrol. £1,200. 01630 673192.

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George in dramatic one-shot victory

Warwick & Worcester Premier Division 1 Boldmere 203 The George 204

THE 1st bowls team had a dramatic one shot away win at Boldmere.

With the last game of the match left on the green The George trailed by six shots, leaving Stewart Meddings needing to win his game by at least seven shots to win the match. Meddings kept his nerve to win 21-14 and secure the match for The George.

The George got off to a slow start and were 17 shots down after the 1st four with only Ray Broadfield (21-17) winning.

South Staffs Premier Division

The George 233 ECC 223

The 2nd team entertained Wolverhampton side ECC and kept their unbeaten home record by securing a 10-shot win.

The match was close with both sides having six winners. Home advantage told with The George.

Warwick & Worcester Alliance Division 3 The George 244 Kings Heath Park 175

The 3rd team recorded a good home win against previously unbeaten Kings Heath Park to take them to the top of the table.

Wins in the 1st four by Peter Hayne (21-8), Phil Brookes (21-14) and Bill Chiswell (21-20) gave The George a 15 shot advantage.

The middle four games saw The George pull away.

Nicolites is to sponsor The Blues

BIRMINGHAM City have confirmed electronic cigarette company Nicolites as their principal sponsor for next season.

The Birmingham-based company will be on the senior shirts while they have agreed to let the club's official charity Help Harry Help Others feature on the academy kit and all junior, infant and baby shirts.

Blues' head of commercial Ian Dutton said: "It is quite clear that Birmingham and the surrounding Midlands area is very much still at the forefront of their minds. This is proven by the wonderful gesture of helping the club's official charity."

Dawson is going nowhere, says Clarke



Staying - Craig Dawson

ALBION have told a queue of Championship clubs to stop pestering them about Craig Dawson - the England Under-21 defender is going nowhere.

Head coach Steve Clarke's phone has been red-hot with enquiries about Dawson, who impressed hugely in a loan spell at Bolton last season which helped transform Wanderers' season.

But Clarke remains committed to giving the 23-year-old his chance to finally prove himself at Premier League level next season.

Bolton are eager to strike a permanent deal for Dawson while Not-

Football

tingham Forest are equally enthusiastic. But the Baggies admit they are just the tip of the iceberg in Championship interest in the defender.

Clarke is challenging Dawson and all the club's young hopefuls to stake their claim.

He said: "They get a chance if they are good enough. That will always be the case. I was fortunate enough to play first-team football when I was 18. It didn't do me any harm."

"If you're good enough, you're old

enough. If you've got a good group, like we have, it obviously helps, but if you're good enough you will be involved."

The search to replace players likely to be leaving this summer goes on amid confusing speculation.

Strike targets Ola Toivonen and Dieumerci Mbokani are the subject of rival interest while Albion are cool on links to Carlton Cole - with whom Clarke worked at West Ham - following his release by Sam Allardyce.

Clarke says the task of digging out signings is "no more difficult" than in the past but says: "The

secret is not looking in different places, the secret is finding the right player."

"It doesn't matter where you look. Sometimes they're under your nose and sometimes they are a little bit further away."

"But the secret is always to find the right player and, I think by and large, with the boys we got in last season, we found the right players."

"Different players do well at different clubs. Some transfers work some don't."

"A case in point here would be El Ghanassy. It didn't work out for him."

Aziz's century just not enough to give victory

HALESOWEN came away with a losing draw on their home turf against Fordhouses which continues to struggle in Division Two.

Responding to the visitors' huge 307-3, the hosts could reach only 153-9. Overseas star Riaz Aziz struck an unbeaten 100 for Halesowen, while Kester Moseley made 92 and Mohammed Ishtiaq 70.

In Division One, Smethwick claimed an impressive winning draw against second-placed Kenilworth Wards in a 20 overs game. Smethwick made 91-7 but former Warwickshire ace Neil Carter claimed 3-17 as the visitors were restricted to just 46-5.

Old Hill claimed a winning draw away at Leamington Spa following skipper Danny Cox's unbeaten 48 in their total of 248-6. The hosts then reached 233-7, with Humais Butt claiming 4-51.

Nathan Round and Ben Smith helped Himley snap a run of five straight defeats in the Premier Division.

Round made 48 not out and Smith an unbeaten 47 as Himley moved to 114-3 at Wolverhampton in reply to the hosts' 175-7 from a reduced quota of 46 overs.

Himley were on the wrong end of the draw, but picked up five points from the perilous position of 20-3.

With nearly every game affected by the weather, Wolves claimed a welcome 13 points but are still searching for their first win of the season in the division.

Walsall had the weather to thank as they escaped with a draw against Premier Division leaders Shrewsbury. The Gorway Road side were skittled out for just 62 but the visitors were left

Cricket

stranded on 29-1 as rain forced an abandonment.

Wombourne moved off the bottom after picking up eight points from their abandoned game with Brockhampton.

West Bromwich Dartmouth's clash with Kidderminster Victoria at Sandwell Park was also called off after the hosts had reached 252-7, Basit Zaman top scoring with 87.

Brewood escaped with a losing draw at home to Bromsgrove thanks to a superb rearguard action from tail-enders John Redrup and Robbie Byrne.

After the visitors had made 230-9, Brewood finished on 86-9 with Redrup and Byrne blocking out the final 10 overs.

B stay at the summit lasted just one week as they went down by 47 runs at Oswestry. Chasing 160, Richard Bradley's side slumped to 112 all out.

Penkridge remain top of Division Three following a 38-run win over bottom side Evesham.

Wolves pounce despite late Panthers fightback



Jacob Thorsell, left, and Freddie Lindgren surge ahead Picture: John Hipkiss Photography

Wolves Speedway 51 Wolverhampton Panthers 43

WOLVERHAMPTON got back to winning ways with a hard-fought victory over Elite League strugglers Peterborough at Monmore Green, writes Rich Jones.

Having suffered their heaviest

defeat of the season at King's Lynn last week, Wolves withstood a late Panthers fight-back to take all three points following a tense last-heat decider. It was reserve Jacob Thorsell who proved the star for the Monmore men with four race wins - one of them paid - on his way to what

is the best score of his British career.

WOLVES 51: Freddie Lindgren 11+1, Jacob Thorsell 11+1, Adam Skornicki 10+2, Ricky Wells 7+1, Ludvig Lindgren 6+2, Tai Woffinden 6+1, Ty Proctor R/R.

PETERBOROUGH 43: Kenneth Bjerre 19, Ryan Fisher 11, Kenni Larsen 10+2, Patrick Hougard 2+1, Dakota North 1, Nicolai Klindt 0, Linus Sundstrom R/R.

Gala team book their place in the swim final

HALESOWEN Swimming Club travelled to Tamworth for the second round of the Mercian Summer League.

With a place in the A final depending on a strong performance Halesowen swimmers did not disappoint.

The swimmers performed well throughout the gala on June 8 and easily held on to a second place on the night to go forward to the A final on July 13.

Double individual event winner was Ryan Davies in the backstroke and freestyle.

Other individual event winners were Ruby Hanke and Talia Mitchell in the freestyle, Lauren and Daniel Hill in the butterfly, Emma Bird in the backstroke, Ruby Fell and Ryan Spoor in the breaststroke and Harry Cowley in the individual medley.

The relay teams put in some strong performances with the age 14 and under girls and open men unbeaten.

Emma Parsons and Joe Coxon joined their teammates to grab victories and the age 10 and under girls won the freestyle including Melissa and Sophie Parsons and Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins.

Final point scores: Rugby 225, Halesowen 215, Bilston 191, Tamworth 158, Walsall 137, Warley Wasps 107

Gueyes has signed up for the Yeltz

WINGER Jean-Michel Gueyes has signed a new deal with Halesowen Town.

French-born Gueyes, who scored 11 goals in 43 appearances this season, has put pen to paper on a new one-year contract at the Grove, bringing an end to speculation surrounding his future.

Gueyes trained with Blue Square Premier outfit Tamworth at one stage of the campaign and was courted by a number of clubs.

But he has chosen to stay with the Yeltz, giving boss John Hill a timely boost following the departure of several key players this summer, including captain Neil Barnfield to Evesham United and 42-goal striker Ben Haseley to Solihull Moors.

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SPORT

Way to win
Wolves' battlers
grab the victory
Page 39



Staying put
Defender Dawson
is going nowhere
Page 39



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Reid now tipped for big role with club

HEAD coach Steve Clarke has tipped Steven Reid to play a big part at The Hawthorns next season after the utility player signed a new one-year deal. The 32-year-old will continue to battle it out with Billy Jones for the right-back spot as he enters his 11th successive Premier League campaign. Clarke hopes to see more of the former Ireland international after an injury-interrupted 2012-13 season. "I'm delighted Steven has committed himself to the club for another year," said the Baggies boss. He's a good pro, has bags of Premier League experience and is a great character to have both within the squad and around the training ground. "If he has better luck with injuries, Steven will have a big part to play here in the new season."

Albion entered into talks with Reid about a new deal for 2013-14 after he fell short of making the number of appearances required to trigger the second year of his previous contract. Sporting and technical director Richard Garlick added: "Steven's a player of proven Premier League pedigree and is a key figure at the club. In total, Reid has made 71 appearances, including 12 as a sub, for the Baggies, scoring four times."

Perry is back in coach role

FORMER England rugby international Shaun Perry has rejoined Dudley Kingswinford as a joint head coach.

The club moved quickly to replace Jon Higgins who stood down because of work commitments. The former England international scrum-half and Worcester Warriors premiership player Perry will work alongside Pete Knight and liaise with James Percival who is head of 16-19 rugby.

Perry is a lifelong DK member and has played in the premiership for Worcester and Bristol as well as for Brive in the top division of French rugby. He also has 11 England Caps and played in the 2007 World Cup.

Perry joins an already well established coaching team which includes Pete Knight, James Percival (Head of 16-19 Rugby); Kevin Raison (fitness).

Saints march to Baggies for first clash

ALBION will host Southampton on the opening day of the new Premier League season – as Villa were handed a trip to Arsenal.

The Baggies welcome the Saints on August 17 and go to Everton a week later in the 2013-14 fixtures released this week.

They go to Tottenham on Boxing Day, playing at West Ham two days later, and host Newcastle on New Year's Day, and on September 28 it's Manchester United at Old Trafford. Clarke faces friend Jose Mourinho for the first time since his return to the Premier League on November 9 when the

Football

Baggies to go Chelsea. The Blues come to The Hawthorns in February while the Baggies host Manchester City mid-week in December. Albion host Villa in the derby on November 23 with the return fixture on January 28 – a Tuesday night game.

The Baggies finish with a home game against Stoke on May 11 with their final away match at Arsenal on May 3.

Villa have a tough start as they go to the Emirates on the opening day before hosting Liverpool and facing a trip to Chelsea.

They host Newcastle on September 14 and go to Paul Lambert's former side Norwich seven days later, before welcoming Manchester City on September 28.

Crystal Palace travel to Villa Park on Boxing Day with Villa away to Sunderland on New Year's Day. United come to Villa on December 14 and Lambert takes his troops to Old Trafford on March 29 – which completes a difficult March with games also against Manchester City and Chelsea.

Villa go to newly-promoted Hull in October with the Tigers their final home game on May 3. Fans face tricky mid-week trips to Southampton on December 3 and

when Villa play their first game at the Cardiff City Stadium on February 11.

Norwich come to the West Midlands for their grudge match with Lambert on March 1 while Villa finish the campaign with a trip to Tottenham. All fixtures could change. **ALBION:** Aug 17: Southampton (H); Sep 28: Man Utd (A); Nov 5: Chelsea (A); Nov 23: Villa (H); Dec 26: Spurs (A); Jan 1: Newcastle (H); Jan 28: Villa (A); Feb 11: Chelsea (A); Mar 8: Man Utd (H); May 11: Stoke (H).

VILLA: Aug 17: Arsenal (A); Aug 31: Chelsea (A); Nov 23: Albion (A); Dec 14: Man Utd (H); Dec 26: Crystal Palace (H); Jan 1: Sunderland (A); Mar 15: Chelsea (H); Mar 29: Man Utd (A); May 11: Spurs (A).

Rain-hit game is called off

WBDartmouth 1st 252-8 Kidderminster Match abandoned

A score of 87 for the in-form Basit Zaman and 47 for Mehrj Ahmed were the highlights in Dartmouth's innings. Rain stopped play before Kidderminster could begin their reply.

WBDartmouth 2nd 209-4 Kidderminster 210-5 K-minster won by 5 wickets

Dartmouth lost both openers for just three before Hiran Dhoolab (95no) and Amit John (49) led a recovery. Despite four wickets for Mohammed Akeel, Chis Pyke's 48 led Kidderminster to a five-wicket win.

The 3rd team match v Penkridge and the 4th team match at Walsall were both abandoned without play.

B-Ham League 20/20 Knock Out

Wombourne 88-5 WBDartmouth 90-7

Dartmouth won by three wickets. Zeeshan Asif was the difference in a close encounter. Asif took 2-7 from his four overs and then top scored with 32.

On Saturday Dartmouth travel to Walmley. On Wednesday Dartmouth visit Wolverhampton in the League 20/20 knock out.

Contract lifeline for Ebanks-Blake

WOLVES striker Sylvan Ebanks-Blake could be offered a contract lifeline by Ipswich – but Crystal Palace are favourites to sign him.

Former Molineux boss Mick McCarthy is considering offering the 27-year-old, whose deal expires in two weeks a short-term contract at Portman Road. Ebanks-Blake isn't expected to be fully fit until October.

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JORDANNE HAS TO SETTLE FOR SECOND

HALESOWEN'S Jordanne Whiley narrowly missed out on winning her second ITF 1 Series singles titles in as many weeks.

The wheelchair tennis star finished runner-up at the Daegu Open to Japan's Yui Kamiji, the player she will partner next month at The Championships, Wimbledon.

For the second week in a row the British No. 2 and Korea Open champion started the women's singles as second seed and followed a first round bye by defeating Louise Hunt 7-5, 6-2 as two of the three top ranked Brits on the Tennis Foundation's Wheelchair Tennis Performance Programme went head-to-head. Whiley then booked her place in another final with a comfortable 6-2, 6-2 win over Japanese fourth seed Kanako Domori.

World No.8 Whiley went into Friday's final having beaten Kamiji 6-4, 6-4 to win the Korea Open a week earlier, but top seed and world No. 7 Kamiji just had the edge in their latest head-to-head to beat Whiley for the first time in four attempts after securing the title 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.

Partnerships

During the Daegu Open Whiley and Kamiji were confirmed among the four women's partnerships for the Wimbledon Wheelchair Doubles Event, having entered the third Grand Slam of the year together even before pairing up for the first time to win the Korea Open in Seoul.

However, they were on opposite sides of the draw in Daegu as Whiley and Hunt narrowly missed out on the chance of a place in the doubles final alongside Kamiji.

The Brits made a good start to their semi-final against Malaysia's Faizatul Ahya Abdullah Thani and

Wheelchair tennis

Thailand's Ratana Techamanewat, one of the players Whiley and fellow Brit Lucy Shuker had beaten to claim the bronze medal in the women's doubles at the London Paralympics. However, Thani and Techamanewat recovered for a 2-6, 6-4, (10-8) victory.

"It would have been nice to have come back with all four titles, but I was very close in the singles final and the better player just won on the day," said Whiley. "Yui's a very, very good player and she recently won the first Super Series title of her career at the Japan Open, so to have beaten her once and come so close just days later is pretty pleasing. We had a great time playing together in Seoul, so we're really looking forward to Wimbledon," added Whiley, who was runner-up in the women's doubles at The Championships last year, partnering Shuker.

This time Whiley and Shuker could meet at Wimbledon, with Shuker also among the entrants alongside Dutchwoman Marjolijn Buis, with whom she reached the final at January's Australian Open.

Hales at home come away with a losing draw



Halesowen's Mohammed Ishtiaq on his way to 70 against Fordhouses. Full round-up – Page 39

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